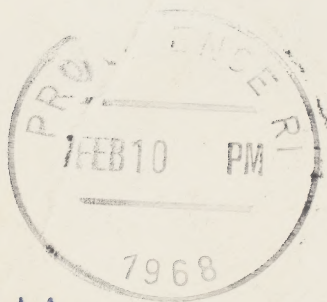


R. August
186 Waterman St
Providence, R.I.
02906



Mr. Eric Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis 5
Missouri

180 Waterman St.
Providence, R.I. 02906

Dear Mr. Newman,

Believe it or not here are those pictures at long last. I had had these pictures taken about four months ago as I had promised you, but my friend never got the pictures developed for two months, and when they were developed they were printed inverted. Then he sent the film back to be printed again, and the pictures were lost. Finally I just got the pictures.

I am enclosing pictures of nine coins in all, for I feel you will find them interesting. No. 1 (the top two pictures in the pile)...this is an interesting counterfeit, and the hair style tends to my mind to be very 'American' rather than 'English'. But who knows? Do you think it might be of American origin? (2) An interesting Bungtown...I wonder if some listed Bungtowns were of American origin...? (3) My finest Machins...the unlisted 1771 which I have never heard of outside my collection. I feel it is possibly unique at this time. Do you know of any others? in what grades? (4) Black 5 obverse and 3 reverse. The coin is a bit better than it appears to be. Here again I have not seen another specimen of this type, but I do have the report of one other. I have another specimen of this coin: its reverse is better than this one and looks much like the 1772 in Black's book or 1772 grade better and without the die break at the hand; its obverse is not as good for the planchet color is a crusty dark and yet the coin's details are all there. This duplicate is for trade. I would prefer to get some variety of a Mass. copper I don't have, or a Vermont copper (such as a R3 or some other rarer die I do not have), or a nice no counter or original Florida token etc. I realize that my duplicate Machins may not be valued as highly as some of the above, but should you care to trade, I would be willing to add cash if necessary.

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Please drop me a line on your comment of some of these coins. I will be having other of my coins pictured soon hopefully (by another more efficient party), and will try to send you copies of other interesting coins... if I don't go broke in the process.

Sincerely,

Richard August

Richard August

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P.P.S. Excuse the terrible typewriter I'm now using.



August # 3

Same obverse as
1775 EPN



August #3

3







6-# forbus



Any not #3



August #8





August 6
#



August 5



Argnot #5



who is the same
as EPN com

August #4



August #4



1# Paulina



1st Pouch



August # 7

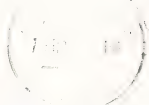


August # 7



August 11-9

R. August
186 Waterman St
Providence, R.I.
02996.



Mr. Eric Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis 5
Missouri

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Sincerely,

Richard August

Richard August

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P.P.S. Excuse the terrible typewriter I'm now using.

Insert

images

from Copystand

here

R: August
186 Waterman St.
Prov. R.I.

10 - PM



Mr. Eric Newman
Eric P. Newman Numismatic Education
6450 Cecil Avenue Society
St. Louis 5
Missouri

Sept. 5, 1968

Dear Mr. Newman,

I just got your letter. I will of course send you a picture of my New Jersey coin when I get it photographed. I am making an effort to get a better job done this time than last, and I have the 'assurance' of a friend that he will get the proper lens for taking the pictures within the month. I'm hoping.

I am familiar with the two Philadelphia tokens you mentioned, but of course the item I know about is far different.

There are two things which make me not that suspicious of the Noe 1 I mentioned to you. First it is on a large flan and this could account for the 79 grains. I did compare the coin with the late die stage Noe 1 pictured in your Good Samaritan monograph. It does show more 'breaks and spots' which makes me think of it as a counterfeit. Yet underneath the tree it has the "XII" lightly indented in such a perfect manner after the way it is shown in the pictured Noe 1s...and I wonder if this is not the sign of a genuine piece....? and for what reason this is found on Noe 1s (it's not incused from a die clash). Can you answer this?

About the man who said he had a hoard of coppers: I never had his address for he did not give it to me although I asked for it (NE suspicion). I only know where he works once in a while. My opinion on him is that like other reports I have gotten only 1 in 10 have what they say they have. Yet he is still worth checking out which I continue to do. I have not given up on this matter and I feel I have as good a chance as is possible of finding out if indeed he has anything of importance. If there is one thing I've learned, you cannot get some of these old yankees to accomodate you no matter how much you try. Believe me, I realize how important this could be, if it checks out...but I also realize how improbable it is. I shall of course keep you posted, but I just don't think you can expect anything quick from a man who may be content to let what he has rot in his house for a few more years than the few generations it has already been there.

Sincerely,

Richard August

Richard August

P.S. Please continue to write me at: (R. August)
98 Crowninshield Rd., Brookline, Mass. until
Sept 15th
My Pers. number is 401-331-7478

pps. When in your opinion where Blacksmith
tokens made? just prior to 1800, around 1800,
or just after 1800?

R. August
186 Waterman St
Prov. R.I. 02906



Mr. Eric P. Newman
Eric P. Newman Newspaper Editor
6450 Euclid Ave
St. Louis 5
Missouri

186 Waterman St.
Providence, R.I. 02906

Dear Mr. Newman,

I just got the R3 back in the mail. I appreciate your help on the matter very much, and thanks very much for calling and talking. I am, needless to say, happy that your opinion of the piece differs from Bill Anton's. Were you by any chance able to have the piece X-rayed? I was not able to get the other R3 to send to you as the piece resides over 100 miles from me, but there is a chance that I may be able to get the piece for you this week-end.

I heard something of your speech on Machin's Mill pieces from Bob Vlack at the last Collector's club meeting. He told me he had a draft of your speech. Is there any chance of you Xeroxing up a copy of the speech for me. I'll pay your costs on the matter. Mr. Vlack told me something of your speech. He said that you believed certain thin imitation ~~to~~ other than Machin's and sometimes lumped into the Bungtown class had their origin in R.I. I had long believed this myself, too, although I'm sure I lacked the evidence you had. Local residents here and there had long told me of this fact. And certain thin counterfeits of which I have about 6 or so I have picked up, with the exception of one, in R.I. In fact there is a place by a stream in Taunton, Mass. that I know of which was thought to have been a coining place. But there is also another rumor which I haven't traced down yet of another such place. (There may have been more than one place.) I also believe that they counterfeited Spanish coins as I have a lovely crude copper counterfiet 2R size piece which was probably silvered. These pieces are probably quite rare as they must have realized they weren't too deceptive. All of this is speculation on my part, but I doubt if the counterfieters would have wanted to leave much of a record of their operations other than local hear-say. I should think that many of these pieces were probably earlier than Machin's pieces and rather local in nature. I have never heard of an overstrike of a state coin involving one (though this should be possible) which would tend to indicate that either these pieces did not pass in the locals where state coins were struck or/and these pieces had been in circulation for some time and were now weeded out, well-worn, or passed out to rural areas where the people were probably less likely to get better coinage or/and they were struck after the state coins (but I rule this out).

Sincerely,

Richard August
Richard August

P.S. By the way I will be away Dec. 18-Jan 2 so I hope to see you in Boston either before or after that time.

Thank you

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12224

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR LIBRARIES

THE NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY

December 5, 1973

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Eric P. Newman Numismatic Education Society
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis 5, Missouri

Dear Mr. Newman:

According to C.R. Roseberry's history of the State Library, there were three fires in the State Capitol in the winter of 1848/49. However we have no record of these fires affecting the State Library, then housed in the Capitol. The Library was badly damaged in the Capitol fire of March 29, 1911, shortly before the completion of the State Education Building, where the Library is now located.

Although we have apparently had only one fire of consequence, that one was sufficient to destroy 450,000 books and 270,000 manuscripts.

Sincerely yours,



Peter Christoph
Associate Librarian
Manuscripts and History Library

FROM

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri 63105

James C. Spilman
The Colonial Newsletter Foundation, Inc.
P. O. BOX 4411
HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA 35802

SUBJECT: Portrait of Captain Thomas Machin

DATE: June 17, 1983

FOLD ↑ Hi Eric:

We are searching for a portrait of Captain Thomas Machin for use with a biographical sketch of Machin by Gary A. Trudgen which will appear in CNL No. 66 later this year. Dave Bowers suggested that you might have encountered his portrait in some of your early investigations of Machin's Mills. If so - would you please advise me so that we can obtain a copy for CNL?

Thanks also for your recent note. I have never had any really good idea of what the multiplier might be for intrinsic value to arrive at trading value but I do agree that it was probably between 1.5 and 2.5 but I also would expect that it bounced around from time to time and from location to location (under "normal" circumstances). I have often suspected that the reason for the utter rejection of lightweight or impure metal coppers was that the calculations necessary to arrive at a true value was much more effort than it was worth, so they just did not fool with it! You either had a good copper or you had a worthless copper. My statement was an oversimplification and an attempt not to get into much detail in keeping with the "overview" concept expressed in the title. A similar oversimplification appears in the "roller markings" which are the result of many passes, not just one, between the rollers. I trust that you have studied the Thompson ms at ANS and will recall that he failed to list a salary for the mintmaster (which was probably at least as great as that for the diesinker) and that the diesinker salary was as great as the total cost for all the mint equipment! So - I have not found any way to establish the value of the multiplier that Thompson had in mind, but it does seem reasonable that it would fall within the limits of 1.5 to 2.5 mentioned above.

Best regards,

JCS

RETURN TO →

SIGNED

REPLY

Samuel Thompson
An Essay on Coining MS 1783
56 pp
ANS Library

DATE:

SIGNED

James Spilman

10/17/1983

Dear Jim:

I hope that Gary Tardger will write me on Machin matters. I have a box 15" x 12" x 12" full of my Machin's Mills research and I would like to help someone write it all up. I wrote up some in 1957 and 1976 but I have much more.

I visited the Machin's site in 1955 (June) with my wife and Wayne Raymond. I went into Thomas Machin's home on Orange Lake where Mrs. C. W. Butt was then living and she showed me the old beams, the fireplace, the dutch oven, and the cellar entrance. I think she gave me the photograph enclosed. She introduced me to Grace Nichols (born 1882) who lived in the house as a child and who found copper coins around the creek when she was a girl. Her father was chief of police of Newburgh, his name James Henry Sarros.

Ray Embler lived next to the overflow outlet of the lake and told me he found an old stone foundation long ago at the creek below. There were several mills in the past so he couldn't remember exactly where.

There were two lake outlets within 100 feet, one abandoned and sealed and one draining gently. The ground drops off abruptly at this lip of the lake giving good water power if used.

The Machin's Mill site was owned by Thomas Beatty until Jan 5, 1779 when it was conveyed to Munson Ward. It was bought by George Clinton on Mar 20, 1782. Sold by Clinton to Daniel Byrnes and Hugh Walck on October 29, 1793. Machin never owned anything there but used the Clinton land. This is in the Ulster County records, I believe, as this area is now Orange County. The abstractor of titles gave me a court opinion which shows Machin's mill was 70 rods down the creek from the pond. The Copper mill and saw mill were rebuilt by Thomas Machin into a grist mill after corning ceased. The grist mill was abandoned in 1827.

This will indicate how much work I have done on this matter.

Naturally the Rittenbur history and the Schoharie History etc are all full of details published long

ago. All of the correspondence of
Machin's quoted in those books is
destroyed by fire.

This is a gold mine for a real
researcher, but if Trudgen hasn't
done more than these past books
have published he certainly should.
I hope he has. Does he live near
there? You should be able to stimulate
him to find out many new things.

Please send back my
picture when you have Top
it.

Crosby published more on this
matter than most people are to
know, but to me this the most
fascinating ^{U.S.} coinage episode other
than the 1804 dollar fraud

My best

FROM

James C. Spilman
The Colonial Newsletter Foundation, Inc.

P. O. BOX 4411

HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA 35802

TO

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63105

SUBJECT: Photo — Machin's "House on Orange Lake" DATE: JAN 7, 1984

FOLD ↑

Dear Eric:

Many thanks for the loan of the Machin photo which I am returning with this letter. Gary Trudgen decided not to include it in his paper. He wrote to me that he had talked with you by telephone on the Machin subject.

To me -- the entire Machin's Mills subject remains one of the prime areas for research in Early American Numismatics and I hope that you and Gary will find an area of mutual interest. I believe that he has built an excellent set of bones to be fleshed out by further investigation.

In great haste.

Best regards,
THE COLONIAL NEWSLETTER
James C. Spilman

PLEASE REPLY TO → SIGNED

REPLY

DATE:

SIGNED

3103 Chatham Road
Endwell, N.Y. 13760
February 4, 1984

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri 63105

Dear Eric:

Thanks for your recent letter. I'll be looking forward to hear what your conclusions are concerning the striping on the obverse of your 9-76B halfpence.

Enclosed is a copy of my latest article along with a photo of a conjectural drawing of how Machin's Mills must have looked. The drawing is based upon my study of the Machin's Mills site, early American mill construction, and information recorded from Machin's sons description of the coinage operation. The drawing was done looking from east to west. South is on the left side while the right side is north. Jim Spilman has advised me that he hopes to publish this article in issue #68 of CNL.

I have also sent a copy of the enclosed article and conjectural drawing to Dave Bowers. He contacted me shortly before Christmas concerning my research efforts on Thomas Machin and his coinage activities.

Yours truly,


Gary A. Trudgen

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

February 10, 1984

Mr. Gary A. Trudgen
3103 Chatham Road
Endwell, NY 13760

Dear Gary:

Thank you for sending me your latest article and your concept of what the Mill looked like.

I have suggested that you might participate in the American Numismatic Society conference in the latter part of this year on American coppers between 1783 and 1837.

I am enclosing pictures of my 1776 coppers which show what nice coins they really are and show that the roughness does not exist on the dies. There is a very large cud at 11:45 on one obverse.

I do not believe you should continue to publish the date of 1783 as the date when the coinage stopped without warning that this was probably just an estimate and that the coinage may have stopped in mid 1780.

I hope I have been helpful.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman

jah

Encl.

7 March 1985.

Dear Mr. Newman:

Thank you for sending the brochure. You are very persuasive in your etymology and I am sure you're right.

It is also evident that you know a lot about coins!

Thank you for your good wishes. If "posterous" means coming after, I think it is the establishment that will be found to have been "pre" that which comes after, which I trust will be the side to which I belong, and that I hope you will.

Sincerely,

Charles Ogburn.

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

July 7, 1987

American Antiquarian Society
185 Salisbury St.
Worcester, MA 01609

Attn: Mr. Dennis Laurie

Dear friends:

By sheer serendipity I found a reference in the Public Ledger newspaper published in Philadelphia on Sept. 2, 1837 which states that it was extracted from the Boston Times. The date of the Boston Times issue is not provided, but it must be a few days before the Ledger date. I enclose a copy of the portion I am interested in.

I would like to know the citation of the Boston Times item if it can be easily located. Is it exactly as republished?

The item refers to the word Bungtown which I have written a detailed explanation of and which was published in 1976 by the American Numismatic Society.

You will note in the excerpt that there is a reference to the Bungtown Chronicle. I do not believe that there is such a publication as all uses of Bungtown during this period were derisive and comical. However there might be such a paper occasionally published for humor. There was a Bungtown Patriot published in Westerly, Rhode Island by a child on a few occasions.

I will be very appreciative of your help in finding whatever is in your library.

I am a member of the AAS. My research is in connection with my writing on numismatic topics.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

July 7, 1987

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I am a member of the AAS. My research is in connection with my writing on numismatic topics.

Sincerely yours,

Eric P. Newman

6450 Cecil Ave.
St. Louis, Mo. 63105

July 20, 1987

Mr. Aaron D. Edison
122 Kinnaird, Apr. #2
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Aaron:

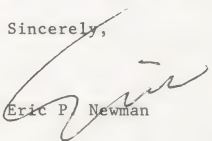
There is a comical insert in the Philadelphia Public Ledger of September 2, 1837, a copy of which I enclose. You will note that the original was apparently published in the Boston Times. I wrote the American Anti-quarian Society in Worcester and they did not have a complete file of the Boston Times for that period. They stated that the Harvard library would have it.

It is a subject on which I have written extensively, namely the origin of the name Bungtown and its relationship to Shakespeare, and I would like to get a photocopy of the excerpt from the Boston Times. It would be very easy if I knew the exact date, but it must be close to 10 days prior to the September 21, 1837 publication in Philadelphia. If you have nothing better to do, I would be very grateful if you could locate the original of the article.

For your information, I want you to know that "The Bungtown Chronicle" does not exist and is a fictitious publication used as a basis for a source of comical writing such as the death referred to of the great Codger from information in the brain.

Congratulations to you on keeping Mark's thoughts Sibel oriented.

Sincerely,



Eric P. Newman

jah

Encl.

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

file

July 23, 1987

Mr. Dennis Laurie
American Antiquarian Society
185 Salisbury Street
Worcester, MA 01609

Dear Dennis:

Thank you very much for your information as to the Boston Times. I am having someone use the Harvard Library to obtain the information. I assume there is no microfilm available or else you would have had it.

I have a citation which I need and presume you could locate easily. The date is December 22, 1785. It is a Boston newspaper, but no newspaper name is given. It says that quantities of copper coins made of base metal should put people on their guard. I hope you are able to find the article in one of the newspapers published in Boston on that date. I will be very appreciative.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman / jah

Eric P. Newman

jah

American Antiquarian Society

185 SALISBURY STREET
WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS, 01609, U. S. A.

July 27, 1987

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Eric P. Newman Numismatic Education Society
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri 63105

Dear Mr. Newman:

The item about base metal coins appears on page three of the December 22, 1785, issue of the Continental Journal and the Weekly Advertiser (Boston, Mass.). Because we have a photostatic copy of this issue (we do not own an original), I was able to make a photocopy from the photostat of the part of the page that contains the information, which I have enclosed.

I should mention that the same item appears on page three of the December 21, 1785, issue of the Massachusetts Centinel (Boston, Mass.).

I am pleased that this time I was able to respond to your query more positively. And I hope that you have not been experiencing as much hot, humid weather as we have been lately.

Sincerely yours,

Dennis R. Laurie
Dennis R. Laurie

Assistant to the Curator
of Newspapers and Serials

Enc.

would not have "retired appointed, diffused and had they pursued a different, for who can be, to not know, that when p of all his money; he m him!"

Britain's "wonderful d resources for supplying of Islands," they will detest Americans, if they be with remittances only in their bottoms; then, if they do, America will live with it they choose to receive consequence will be, she will not so walk without leading a little time, Europe will be again her own principles.

the British legislature, the omnets of force, though she is the detest of damp- the seeds of dissension (Americans) some members of commons then declared saving purpose. That if future, against the colonists in, these flats that formed strength to Great Britain of George the Second, evered from their empires in George the Third, but ation of the time declared, discontented party in the dicalously given into a tone "but surely no perfect received a more perfect sole accomplishment. The colonies undauntedly fustion defence of their injury as laughed at by a minority too strongly imbibed the and unconditional doctrine that it absolutely impossible, unarmed and undisciplined, by respect totally unprepared old empire a nation that had y flushed with conquest, and armies had been killed part of the globe. What England! the invincible deep! such a period was ought the most power to g the all grasping designs of external parts of the empire, superiority to the affirmed the and subjection of the of Great-Britain, and thus through the spirit of mistaken e most facile and inherent at necessarily belong to any subject. How vain is ledge, and how unstable he not erected upon the broad ty, freedom, and a strict ty, and impartial justice. Britain, and withdraw you will and, outer oppression have lately attempted to am nces, or Indians, tell the

ming without complaint as there, who fainted and complained as there. The Doctor ordered them out of the damp rooms, and they soon found relief. This is inferred for a caution to others.

BOSTON, DECEMBER 22.

In an age of luxury apothorisms against voluptuousness may have little effect; however a few curfies observations on the force of custom may not be displeasing, even to those who will not adhere to the salutary prescriptions. Many eminent physicians have made remarks on the nature of ailments, but have made little or no reformation in epicurism. People pay little regard to any new doctrine which abolishes an old custom, and would think the freedom to eat and drink they please, even if they were assured a multiplicity of evils was concomitant attendants. It has been humorously observed, by a learned foreigner, that our life is like a comedy, where the whole business and plot is eating: Breakfast is the prologue; dinner the interlude, and supper the epilogue; we reverse this rule of Cato, *Eat to live, and live to eat*. It is too true that we generally pass the bounds of nature, and fall out into superfluities; and that there is as much luxury and ambition as our tables as in our dress. Our primitive fathers could drink of the simple stream and be satisfied, whilst their hospitable board was a stranger to luxury. Had Plato lived in our age, he would have been more surprised than he was at Scilly: When that Philosopher returned to Athens from his travels, he was asked, "What law remarked in Scilly?" He replied, "I saw a monster in nature; a man who eat two meals in one day!" Temperance augments things that are pleasant; nor has the greatest epicure that *Gout* over his artful delicacies, which nature gives to the homely diet of the peasant.—Health is the hand-maid of temperance, and they are most happy in their health, who eat for hunger and drink for thirst: Human nature is contented with a little; and custom has introduced excess. The order of living is inverted from what nature intended it.

The animosity of Ireland has raised such a party and faction against England, as seems to threaten the state with new dangers and distresses.

Previous to Dr. Franklin's leaving France, he presented the French monarch with a medal, struck on the occasion of the independence of this country,—which will transmit to the remotest ages, the epoch of one of the most remarkable revolutions in the history of mankind.

A maiden lady wholly devoted in Ireland, left two guineas each to four maids, aged twenty-five, to be her pallies, each of whom was to *swear* the *maid*, before receiving the money; but such is the detestation in which per-

few of their corsairs having for some time past ventured without the Straits, owing to the approach of winter, and the vigilance of the Portuguese cruisers. No accounts of any late captures by the Algerines had been received at Cadiz.

Accounts from Damarrá, by the way of Martinico, say, that almost every house and dome on that island have lately been consumed by fire.

At the last session of the General Court of the State of New-Hampshire, a motion was made and seconded, to appoint a committee to consider the expediency of altering the mode of punishment for petty crimes; and of obliging such as are convicted of them, to work out their salvation, not with fear and trembling, but with *the sail and banner*.

The new State of Vermont, from a state of anarchy and lawless confusion, is softening down to a happier condition. Their courts of law are regularly held, and justice can be obtained through its proper channel.—The policy of the State is managed with a consistency and energy as bid fair to transform the late dreary wilderness into as fair a Republic as any in the Confederation.

Considerable quantities of base coin are now in circulation.—A copper one in imitation of French guineas, gilt; are very current—they are dated 1732, are larger and thicker than the true ones.—A copper coin, washed with silver, are frequently passed for English six-pences, they are much larger than good ones—these, with quantities of what are called coppers, but of a baser metal passing, should put people on their guard, not only to prevent being cheated, but to stop their circulation.

Tuesday se'night the Lady of the Rev. PATRICK CHURCH was safely delivered of a promising Son, and last Lord's Day Mr. Fletcher baptized it by the name of SAMUEL COOPER, as a testimony of his esteem for his late worthy predecessor.

By a gentleman from Quebec, and letters of late dated from London, we are informed that the Lieutenant-Governor Hamilton is gone to England: Lieutenant-General Sir Frederick Haldimand, was expected in Quebec early next spring as Commander of the British troops, and Military Governor; Sir Guy Carleton also would about the same time embark for that country, in the character of a Viceroy of the British territories in North America, and Sir John Johnson would accompany the Knight of the Bath, as Superintendent of Indian affairs, commissioned with powers greatly exceeding his most worthy father and predecessor Sir William Johnson.

An attempt has lately been made by some of the friends to freedom in Carolina, to prevent the importation of negroes into that state for the term of three years. A bill was brought in for the purpose; and after a lengthy debate, was negated by 63 to 48.

and Sciences at their next meeting. If they will secure to him a premium, which he may think adequate to its importance, and his merits, he will divulge it to them; or otherwise he purposes for Europe.

I am informed that Mr. Allen, when a boy, on a whaling voyage, approaching very near to a Water-Spout, he observed the circumfluous water to have the exact colour of fresh water, down to the very surface of the sea; and as the rain which poured down from the cloud above was fresh, he had no doubt but the separation took place at the surface before drawn up. This first gave him an idea of this noble project, with but having even one principle of the hydrostatic laws. The hypothesis, that the salt water is drawn up to the clouds in water-spouts, and there by a certain operation of the air, while it is expanding, and dispersing in the clouds, is separated from the saline particles, must be exploded, by many and several other new theories. From what I can gather, by the character and conversation of Mr. Allen, both his theory and machinery may be very simple.

I should conjecture, by some peculiar temperature, and action of the air on the surface, he produces the effect to sink the grosser particles, while the pure and subtle float on top, to be received free from salt.—Whatever may be the method, I am sure it must be simple, and therefore it will be much more useful to mankind—he altered me the apparatus may be made complete for a life, will wear (as his own phrase is) as long as (them, keel and stern pole of a ship), and be very little liable to derangement.

We have lately heard the lectures of the celebrated Doctor MOYSE, on water-spouts. I believe you will never be able to reconcile his darling theory to this discovery: Although as yet we can only conjecture, but I dare say, Mr. Allen has as little knowledge of the laws of the electrical fluid, as of the doctrines of Comenius or Zoroaster. I hope the learned President of the Academy of Arts and Sciences, will open a correspondence with Mr. Allen, and by some promise of reward to his heirs, induce him to commit the whole to writing, that in case he should die before the negotiation is finished for the purchase of the secret, mankind may not even run the hazard of losing so invaluable a discovery."

On Monday last, departed this life, at Billerica, in the 31st year of her age, Mrs. SARAH TYLER, the amiable and affectionate consort of John Steel Tyler, Esq.

"Farewell bright soul, a short farewell, 'Till we shall meet again above, In the sweet groves where pleasures dwell, And trees of life bear fruits of love." NAVAL-OFFICE, BOSTON, Dec. 21. E N T R I E S. Brig Juno, to Sisco, St. Martins. Sloop Betty, Greenleaf, Surinam.—Friendship, Greenleaf, Philadelphia.

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

February 8, 1988

Mr. James C. Spilman
The Colonial Newsletter Foundation, Inc.
P. O. Box 4411
Huntsville, AL 35802

Dear Jim:

Your very nice letter of February 2, 1988 is appreciated. Your plan on having special interest groups is a fine one and I believe will be very productive of knowledge.

As I told you, I am very anxious to see the Virginia project revised and will gladly help in any way I can. So far as I now know all that is open is to illustrate in clearer form and add the new die varieties. Spread of weights and the number of examples in collections could also be included if that were important in the series. I believe someone else should be selected for that project as I previously pointed out. I will help anyone, but I do feel it would be more of an incentive to have someone else be the coordinator. Will you, therefore, see if you can interest someone else for that position.

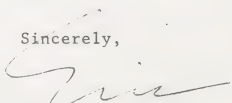
Machin's
I would certainly be interested in knowing who has been selected for the other three areas which you mentioned as the Fugios and Machin's Mills are particularly of interest to me, having written extensively on both subjects, and being the first one to publish the die varieties of the Fugios and the first one to show the interlocking punch work between Vermont, Connecticut and the Machin's Mills pieces.

Where I think I might be of most help as coordinator is in the early paper money of America if you think that field belongs in your data books. As you may know, I am now writing the third edition of the Early Paper Money of America and publication is scheduled toward the end of 1988. That area is much more exciting to me because of the historical, technical and broad based problems which arise in it because if it were only for varieties' sake I would not have as much interest in it. Perhaps the fact that I am going to publish it in book form separately from CNL disqualifies me from coordinating new information, but there would be nothing better than to have new information on the subject fed in through CNL as long as CNL recognizes that it will go into a book form independently produced.

I would very much appreciate your thoughts along these lines, particularly since I am not using any computer based data bank and you are applying all of the new electronic methods to compilation and retrieval of information.

My very kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,



Eric P. Newman

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

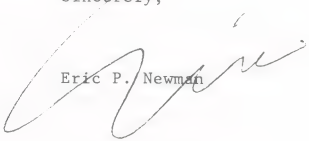
June 15, 1988

Mr. Gary A. Trudgen
3103 Chatham Road
Endwell, NY 13760

Dear Gary:

I had the American Numismatic Society take a picture of my NY small head for you. I hope its study will reveal new data.

Sincerely,


Eric P. Newman

EPN:bv

6:25-87

Dear Eric -

Thank you for the copy of your interesting article on the 1755 1/2 d. It certainly re-awakened my dormant interest in these pieces. I hope the one I once gave you helped you in this research in some way.

I am enclosing a copy of a short piece which appeared in Colonial Newsletter about my pure counterfeit 1/2 d - the Banana Nose. If you would like to examine it some time, please let me know so we can make arrangements. It is the most extraordinary, crude caricature of King George III I have seen on a coin.

There are a few more counterfeit 1/2 d scattered around here - nothing very exciting really which you could also see if you so desire. I'd have to round them up.

They're really junk. Then I have Blacksmiths - ^{wood #3} 5-16 pieces ^{1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17, 23 (double sink), 33} - I don't get the CMC article copied - please see March 1980 seq. page 705, TN-87. I do enclose some photos which I may have sent to you ten years ago - please keep.

Best wishes -

David McBride

Ps - Some reviews of my book are enclosed for your information.

*Circ, Please fill in this survey. Please to
publish something within 6 mos. after my
trip to England. Ring says you have almost
nothing. Please confirm*

COUNTERFEIT COPPERS
SURVEY OF DATES BY MAJOR TYPE
STRUCK & CAST SPECIMENS

ENGLISH				IRISH			
GEORGE II		GEORGE III		GEORGE II		GEORGE III	
1/4d.	1/2d.	1/4d.	1/2d.	1/4d.	1/2d.	1/4d.	1/2d.
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

STRUCK SPECIMENS

CAST SPECIMENS

1) Please list the number of specimens with illegible dates in your collection:

2) Please list the total number of specimens in your collection:

3103 Chatham Road
Endwell, N.Y. 13760
March 27, 1990

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63105

Dear Eric:

How are you? I hope fine. I'm writing concerning my present research project. Currently I'm researching the lives of James F. Atlee and Samuel Atlee. As you know, these two men were very much involved with the state coinages, specifically New Jersey and New York. However, little is currently known about them.

My reason for writing concerns James F. Atlee. Do you know of any primary sources that specifically state that James F. Atlee was a die engraver? The only primary source documents that I'm aware of confirm this fact in a roundabout way. I'm referring to Thomas Machin Junior's description of his father's coinage operation where he states that Atlee was the engraver. From this primary source we know that Atlee was the engraver, but we don't know if it was James F. or Samuel. However, the Machin's Mills indenture of April 18, 1787 states that James F. Atlee and Thomas Machin were in charge of the operations at the mills. Therefore, the engraver must have been James F. Atlee. I would be very interested if you know of any other primary sources that directly state that James F. Atlee was a die engraver.

Recently, I finished a 1½ year study on the life of John Bailey, the New York City coiner. I submitted my manuscript of 38 pages to Jim Spilman. I'm currently putting the finishing touches on an article concerning litigation in the New York City Mayor's Court by the individuals involved in the New Jersey and New York state coinages. What are you working on? Have you heard that there has been a new Atlee halfpence variety discovered? It is 4-71D, struck from a newly discovered reverse die.

Take care.

Sincerely,



Gary A. Trudgen

3103 Chatham Road
Endwell, N.Y. 13760
March 27, 1990

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63105

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Take care.

Sincerely,



Gary A. Trudgen

Memo from . . .

ROBBYN FAHEY

November 30, 1990

Dear Mr. Newman:

Joe wanted you to have the attached.

Sincerely,

Robbyn Fahey

NEUBERGER & BERMAN

MEMBER NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE, INC.

522 FIFTH AVENUE

NEW YORK, N. Y. 10036

ANNOUNCING THE RELEASE OF THE FIRST NUMISMATIC TEXT DEVOTED TO THE
SUBJECT OF THE WIDEST CIRCULATING COINS OF COLONIAL AMERICA DURING
THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.....

THE FORGOTTEN COINS OF THE NORTH AMERICAN COLONIES
~~~~~

*A MODERN SURVEY OF EARLY ENGLISH AND IRISH  
COUNTERFEIT COPPERS CIRCULATING IN THE AMERICAS*

Including a report on the recent site inspection of the Machin  
Mills mint, and a study of the Buste Enfantin coinage  
of Louis XV circulating in Colonial America

BY

WILLIAM T. ANTON, JR. AND BRUCE P. KESSE

The counterfeit British halfpence and farthings used in everyday transactions during America's Colonial period represents perhaps the most challenging and unexplored numismatic series to modern day students and collectors of early copper, however only scattered reference material has been available on the subject of these crude "Bungtown" coppers. THE FORGOTTEN COINS represents the culmination of over 30 years of collecting and study, and is now available in three different limited hardbound editions produced specifically for the serious Colonial copper specialist. These copies will be distributed strictly on a first-come, first-served basis; each is numbered and signed by the authors. All three editions have hand-sewn binding, are 83 pages, and contain ten interleaved photographic plates of superb quality illustrating 171 exceptional specimens of the subject coppers, with each coin's obverse and reverse depicted. Editions available are as follows:

\*Deluxe hand-crafted hardbound,  
limited to 100 copies.....\$195  
\*For the discriminating collector,  
deluxe full leather hardbound  
limited to 15 copies.....\$600  
\*For the numismatic bibliophile,  
deluxe leather and hand-made marbled paper hardbound  
limited to 10 copies.....\$775  
A small quantity of just the ten photographic plates  
and a descriptive key thereto are available.....\$100

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Woodcliff Publishing Corp.  
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Lodi, N.J. 07644

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Michael J. Hodder  
Numismatic Research  
Tax & Estate Appraisals  
Private Consultation

HC69 Box 606  
325 North Main St.  
Wolfeboro NH 03894  
603-569-8265

Member: ANA, ANS,  
NBS, NLG, TAMS  
ANA Historian

June 13, 1992

Mr. Eric P. Newman  
6450 Cecil Avenue  
St. Louis, MO 63105

Dear Eric:

I found the reference you requested in my files after a bit of searching. It is from *Votes and Proceedings of the Fourteenth General Assembly of the State of New Jersey...Being the Second Sitting* (New Brunswick: Abraham Blauvelt, 1790), pp. 50-51 under date June 7, 1790.

On May 20 Messrs. Rutherford, Witherspoon, and Clement were formed into a committee to "...enquire into the cause of the depreciation of the Copper Coin of this State and report the same to the house." On May 24 the state treasurer wrote a letter to the house, asking that NJ coppers no longer be received in payment of taxes. On June 7, the committee troika made their report.

The section you are interested in reads as follows:

"That the depreciation of the Copper Coin appears to be entirely owing to the fraudulent practises of persons who have stamped Bermingham and Connecticut Coppers with the same impression as those of this state, and have afterwards passed them to others;...That the New-Jersey Coppers lately passed at fifteen for a shilling, the rate directed by law, and the Bermingham and Connecticut Coppers could at the same time be procured for forty five for a shilling, and that some persons have availed themselves of the difference and have changed the impression of a considerable quantity of light and base Coppers, converting one shillings worth of those Coppers into three shillings worth of New Jersey Coppers, which practise has occassioned so great a depreciation of the Coppers in this State that in some places they do not circulate, and in other places they pass at an unequal and uncertain value from 48 to 36 for a shilling though they lately circulated at their full value, even in neighboring states where no other Coppers would pass."

The committee recommended that an enquiry be conducted to establish the identities of those overstriking NJ coppers. They offered no opinion as to whether NJ coppers should any longer be receivable for payments of state taxes.

I hope this helps. Nice talking with you this morning.

Yours truly

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Michael".

Michael Hodder

1<sup>st</sup> edit 1781 London

Universal Etymological  
English Dictionary  
by Nathan Bailey

---

1800 is 2<sup>d</sup> edit 5th Pub

Bung - a gunc or pouch

Bung - The stopple of a barrel.

Very

Important  
**LAW LIBRARY**

Library of  
Congress

Author

Over

Book No.

Law office  
N.H. 2

Title

Acts & laws of His Majesty's  
Province of New Hampshire in  
New-England

Printed by Daniel Fowle 1761

pages 241-4

Vol.  
or  
date

CONTAINS AN ACT for ascertaining  
the value of current silver & gold and English  
half-pence and farthings and the rates at which

Name

Address

<sup>the State of</sup>  
The perpetual Laws of N. H.

from July 1776 to 1788

by John Melcher 1789

Another by printed at Exeter

1780

He cannot creep  
into a halfpenny-  
purse

III V. 148

Merry Wives of Windsor

0220 30/25

~~0220 30/25~~

TICKET FOR:

SEAT

8F

FLIGHT NO.

DESTINATION

468

25

ICA

Daniel Van Voorhis

Working 1785-1820 in NY

In Phila 1780-82

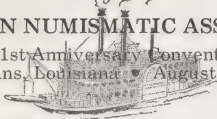
In Princeton 1783-4

Museum of the City of N.Y.  
description

**TWA**

# AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

81st Anniversary Convention  
New Orleans, Louisiana • August 15-19, 1972



## EXHIBITS

Mr. Robert Hendershott

*Make change on p. 45  
to refer to Bantlett.*

**KRAUSE PUBLICATIONS, Inc.**

IOLA, WISCONSIN 54945 [ ] The Coin Collectors' Capital

Publishers of: NUMISMATIC NEWS • COINS MAGAZINE • COIN PRICES

Dec 1964

from Vlack

GEORGIUS — Date?

Lettering looks American

Head looks American

Edge dentils look American

Seated figure + shield OK

Date not readable but is 177  $\boxtimes$   
could be a 4

Obverse exact die of 1774

on ANS photo 62-595 }  
62-596 }

where coin is Yale or ANS

Rev differs, this has a double date  
line — Yale or ANS one has a single date line  
The figure punch is the same on both,  
the head is punched separately,  
because the neck angle differs.

BUNG, a Purfe, Pocket, or Fob.

BUNG-NIPPERS, Cut-purfes, who with a fhort fharp Knife, and an horn Thumb, ufed to cut a Purfe with all imaginable Eafe. Since the wearing of Purfes is out of Fafhion, they are called Files, or Pick-pockets, purfuing the fame Design, and only changing their Name. See FILE.

A NEW CANTING DICTIONARY  
comprehending all the Terms, Antient  
and modern, used in the Several Tribes  
of Gypsies, Beggars, Shoplifters,  
Highwaymen, Foot-bads and all other  
Classes of Cheats and Villains.  
London 1725

# Drapery Dept. House Estimate Work Sheet

This Form Not to Be Given or Sent to Customer

Date

Sales Person

Phone

Name

Address

Authorized by

Kind of Sale

Date of Issue

Date of Promise

Hang  
Del. Only

Room and Description (State Width, Style and Price of Material)

July 1971

Robert Vlack owner

1775 Geo III Ctf British 1/2d (normal)

Struck over 1797 Middlesex #366 Token

Proving ctf 1/2d dies were still  
being used in 1797 to strike  
Coppers in England

Words "London"

~~TRADE~~

TRADE

and wheels are visible on  
underside

See slides I made

7/1

Oct 1990

# BUNG TOWN

W. C. Prime (1862

p 108 states that

Hard Times Tokens and Store Cards  
were called Bungtowns in New  
England

p 107 says they were made by Scoville  
Mfg Co and Waterbury Button Co.  
that the nickel cent keeps them  
out of circulation.

p 108 "These tokens are fast disappearing"

Pennywise

Vol XII p 25

Walter Breen says that in May 1951  
he went through the Stearns  
corn bank at Stack's

Black #

Eric P. Newman collection

~~1-77~~

- 1-~~77~~ 47A vf, g, vg, f, f  
 2-71A vf, vg, g,  
 3-71B vg f  
 4-71C abt.vg.  
 5-72A f  
 6-72A Abt unc  
 7-72B f  
 3-74A vg  
 7-74A abt.vg.  
 8-74A f  
 4-75A f  
 9-76B vf  
 9-76B Heavy die break vg  
 6-76A vf vg vf  
 11-78A Unc red, f, p, fair, p, g  
 12-78B vg, vg, g  
 13-78B g, g, fair, fair  
 11-78A two holes for humdinger use  
 14-84A Some red. Weak, unc. f, vg  
 13-88CT f, g, abt.vg, vg, vg  
 15-85<sup>NY</sup> 20  
 16-86A vg  
 17-87A Unc. some red, vf, p, p  
 17-87B xf, xf  
 18-87C xf, xf  
 19-87C unc die break  
 19-87C vf no die break, vg  
 19-87C vf die break on each side  
 20-87C Unc. red.  
 21 II-87DII xf  
 21 II-87C f  
 22-88VT f  
 23-88A unc, xf, p, vf, abt.unc, xf  
 23-88A large planchet vg  
 23-88A xf  
 Vt-87C xf

I have a few  
more in unimportant  
condition

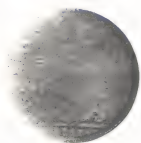
12

1781 cty Br.  $\frac{1}{2}$  d  
Phil Mossman

---

June 1987

At base of armor <sup>under</sup> right  
side there are two dots,  
the left larger than the  
right.  
Wedge shaped dentals  
from 10 to 12 o'clock.



Base line is solid  
and not double

Uprights of 1s in  
date are thin.

Small horizontal  
line above each of  
first ~~two~~ numbers  
and above last  
number of date

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## MACHIN'S MILLS COINAGE

by

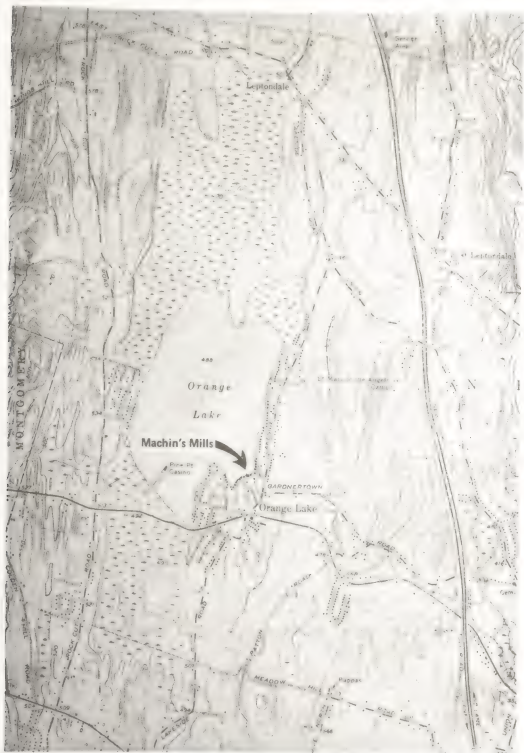
JOHN A. BUSH

The history of Machin's Mills is among the most fascinating in Early American Coinage. Machin's Mills was located on the shore of Orange Pond, near present day Newburgh, New York. It was built originally as a grist and a saw mill by Captain Thomas Machin. He was the army engineer who built the famous chain across the Hudson River at West Point, during the Revolutionary War. This chain was placed here to prevent the British from passing that point of the river, with their navy, which would have divided the Continental Army. In 1787 the mill was converted into a mint house, when Machin formed his company for the manufacturing of hardware.



ARTIST'S CONCEPTION OF THOMAS MACHIN'S MILL AT ORANGE LAKE  
VIEW LOOKING WEST

The term "hardware" refers to copper coin. This designation came about when imitation British halfpence were shipped from Birmingham, England to America. These counterfeit halfpennies were imported to America in casks under the name "hardware" or "wrought copper."



*reprinted from THE COLONIAL NEWSLETTER, July 1984.*

**MAP OF ORANGE LAKE—FIVE MILES NORTHWEST OF NEWBURGH, N.Y.  
SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION OF MINT SITE**

On March 3, 1787, Thomas Machin filed a petition with the New York State Legislature requesting a grant for permission to coin money for the State of New York. Between March 15 and April 7, the intent to establish this coinage was abandoned, because of the inability of New York State to draft a plan, not only to regulate the copper coinage circulating at that time but also to provide a state-produced copper coinage. Machin set up his business to produce copper coinage on April 18, 1787. However, on April 20, 1787, the New York State Legislature passed a bill which reduced the value of legal coppers and made passing illicit coppers subject to confiscation and to penalty. Because of this action by New York State, there remained three options for Machin's company to succeed: to solicit from Congress or another state a coinage contract or to merge with another company having an existing coining agreement.

Thomas Machin had five partners, and on June 7, 1787, they joined with Ruben Harmon and his partners in the manufacture of Vermont Coinage. Harmon had a mint at Rupert, Vermont, which had been operating since July 1, 1785, and on October 24, 1786, Ruben Harmon negotiated a new contract with the Republic of Vermont. Harmon's contract, which now affected Machin and his partners, was extended for eight more years, beginning on July 1, 1787.



Thus when Machin's Mills started operating as a hardware manufactory, the only products of Thomas Machin and his partners were dies of the Vermont Coinage for the Rupert mint in Vermont. So in order to make a return on their investment, Machin and his associates began producing their version of imitation British halfpence. This offered minimum risk of detection because their product would blend in with the already circulating Birmingham Coppers. These Machin's Mills imitation British halfpence can be recognized by the single outline in the crosses of Britannia's shield and by the large triangular denticles along the circumference of the coin. Besides the imitation British Halfpennies, Machin's Mills also coined New York State Patterns, Counterfeit 1652 Massachusetts Pine Tree Shillings, Connecticut Coppers, Vermont Coppers, and New Jersey Coppers.

---

The copper Machin used for the coins was obtained by melting brass cannon and separating out the zinc. The copper was moulded into ingots and then rolled into flat sheets. The blanks were then cut from this sheet by a screw press. The blanks were then put into a cylinder with sand, sawdust, and water and were then left to revolve in this cylinder, through the night. This process would smooth the edges of the blanks. The coins were then struck using a screw press. This coin press consisted of an iron frame with a screw that worked through it. The screw had large square threads with an iron bar about ten feet long placed through it. On each end of the bar were lead weights of about 500 lbs. Ropes were attached to each end of the bar and two men, on either end of the lever bar, would swing the lever bar by pulling on the ropes at one end. A fifth man would sit in a pit, so that the lever bar would not strike his head. He would lay the blanks on the die with his fingers and then he would remove the coin after it was struck. The maximum obtainable coinage over a short period of time was sixty coins per minute.

These coinage operations were looked upon with suspicion by the local residents because the workmen sometimes wore masks, worked at night, and circulated stories about the devil working for them. All these actions were used to keep the curious away.

The demise of the coinage operations at Machin's Mills was probably in early 1790. The exact date is not known, but it was caused by two events: the adoption of the U.S. Constitution and the formation of the Federal Government on March 4, 1789. Thus the individual states were prohibited from coining their own money. However, the death knell began to sound for Machin's Mills with the collapse of the copper price in July 1789; this breakdown made the coinage of copper pieces unprofitable.

Surely, Thomas Machin, who had succeeded in earlier endeavors, along with his partners, had to feel displeasure with the results of their business enterprise. The expectations they had envisioned—namely, obtaining a coinage contract from a state legislature or from Congress—never materialized. In order not to suffer a greater loss, they were forced to produce their copper coinage in a covert manner, and thus they were never to receive recognition for their workmanship.

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# A MISSOURI RECORD

Continued from the July, 1985 issue

The editor encourages reader assistance in the attribution of and/or establishment of the historical significance of items listed in this column. Submission of items relating to Missouri for publication is also welcomed.

31. Obv. INDUSTRIAL CONFERENCE / 1892 / ST. LOUIS FEB. 22  
Rev. FIRST PEOPLES PARTY CONVENTION / 1776 /  
\* OHAMA JULY 4, 1892 \*  
29 mm. Round Aluminum

This dual convention badge hints at the role St. Louis played in the formation of one of America's most remarkable political parties, the Peoples or Populist Party. The Populist Party garnered over one million votes for its first Presidential candidate, General James B. Weaver.

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## CONTINUED...BIBLIOGRAPHY — MACHIN'S MILLS COINAGE

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# PATENTED SCRIP IN MISSOURI

by Michael G. Pfefferkorn

**Note:** The author is indebted to the many collectors who have made rubbings available for study and particularly to Lloyd Wagaman of Camby, Indiana, who is making a study of (and attempting to attribute) all of the Ingle System issues, and to Tom Wall of Independence, Missouri, for some of the illustrations that accompany this article.

This article is based on original research and analysis. Along with providing new information, the author hopes to encourage more research and communication on patented scrip. For additional background information, the author relied on the following references in the Missouri Numismatic Society Library: Stuart E. Brown, Jr's *Scrip Trade Tokens Issued by United States Coal Mining Companies Stores* (1978); Walter Caldwell's "Scrip Store," *TAMS Journal* (February, 1972); and Robert W. Craigo's "The History of 'System' Coal Company Scrip," parts 1 and 2, *TAMS Journal* (June and August, 1972). Additional information was supplied by John W. Byars, Jr., Jim Hinton, and David E. Schenkman.

## Part IV. Documentation and Other Evidence

*Continued from July 1987 issue.*



*This store at 8226 Alabama Street in South St. Louis near River Des Peres is the former site of Traxler and Meyer's Grocery. The partnership lasted about five years.*

# The Illogical and Curious Vermont "Britannia" Copper

*This controversial coin leaves many questions unanswered*

By Gary A. Trudgen

In the Vermont coppers series several varieties stand out from the others by virtue of their dissimilarity. Among these is Ryder-5, the contemporary counterfeit landscape type, which is known in both struck and cast incarnations. William T. Anton, Jr. recently described the differences between the two forms of Ryder-5 in this forum following our sale of the Norweb Collection of Vermonts, which contained specimens of both.

Another of the anomalous Vermont varieties, Ryder-13, the famous BRITANNIA reverse type, is described in Gary Trudgen's article below. Ryder-13 has long been a controversial variety, as it carries a well-cut and usually sharply struck obverse with a reverse that always appears indistinct, poorly cut into the die, and softly struck up. The inconsistency between the two dies has occasioned two differing explanations, each of which Gary discusses.

We offer his article, outlining his preliminary findings, knowing that it will inspire further, fuller research among Vermont coppers collectors.

One of the most popular and interesting coins from the state coinage era is the Vermont "BRITANNIA" copper. It is part of the Vermont copper coinage series and also belongs to the Atlee imitation British halfpence series. In the Vermont series it has been attributed

as Bressett 17A and Ryder-13, while in the Atlee halfpence series it is known as Vlack VT-87C. The Vermont "BRITANNIA" copper is a mule or a coin struck from two different coinage series. The obverse die bears the Latin legend VERMONT AUCTORI (By authority of Vermont), and was specifically engraved for the Vermont coinages. The reverse die, dated 1787, carries the legend BRITANNIA, and was originally engraved for use with American-made imitation British halfpence.

The obverse of the coin is usually well struck. The reverse of the coin is always weakly struck along the periphery. Only high-grade and well-struck early issues of this variety show enough of the reverse

legend so that it is readable. Even then, the tops of most of the letters are still missing. The date is usually entirely gone, and at best only the last two digits, 87, will faintly show. The only part of the reverse that is normally well struck is the seated figure of Britannia, although her right leg and the globe that she sits on are always missing.

This illogical and curious copper was minted by Machin's Mills in the state of New York during the Confederation period of the United States. Machin's Mills is one of the most interesting early American mints, and the Vermont "BRITANNIA" copper is one of their most interesting products. No coinage records are known to exist from Machin's Mills, but a study of the halfpence that were struck with the same reverse die suggests that the Vermont "BRITANNIA" was struck in 1788. Fortunately, this fascinating copper is one of the most common state issues so anyone desiring a specimen can obtain one.

Over the years a controversy has arisen concerning the reverse die. Was the die worn out from previous use or was it deliberately defaced to remove the legend and date? In either case, it is argued that the lack of the BRITANNIA legend would have made these coins more acceptable for circulation. A review of some of the earlier writings concerning the Vermont "BRITANNIA" reveals how the controversy developed.

In 1886 Wyllys Betts published his groundbreaking treatise on counterfeit copper coins manufactured by the American mints. Within his study, titled *Counterfeit Half Pence Current in the American Colonies and Their Issue from the Mints of Connecticut and Vermont*, the following paragraph is found on page 16:

Now, comparing the half pennies of 1787 (No. 6) with the Vermont coin (No. 17) having the reverse BRITANNIA, I find in several of them the identical die (No. 18), used with several obverse dies. In my possession shows both dies in

## Vlack VT-87C



■ Vermont "BRITANNIA" copper (Bressett 17A, Ryder-13, Vlack VT-87C). Earlier issue. The obverse is strongly struck. The reverse shows the typical weak strike along the periphery.

good condition. A second impression, though as fine as when struck, shows the same dies much worn, and the reverse die shows the weakness around the edge always existing in the reverse of the "BRITANNIA" Vermont cent, showing that the die was worn out in striking halfpence before its use began with the Vermont obverse."

The numbers within the parentheses refer to very accurate line drawings of coins illustrated in Betts' paper. No. 6 is Vlack-19 halfpence obverse; No. 17 is the Vermont "BRITANNIA" obverse; and No. 18 is the Vlack-87C halfpence reverse die which is also known as Bressett V within the Vermont series.

Hillier Ryder authored *The Colonial Coins of Vermont* in 1919. He described each of the Vermont copper die varieties known to him and assigned a number to each variety. The Vermont "BRITANNIA" variety was assigned number 13, and the reverse die is described as follows:

The reverse die is so badly worn, that the date does not show. Specimens of counterfeit British

**"Over the years a controversy has arisen concerning the reverse die."**



## A Special Offering of Vestal Press Books

We are pleased to present in this issue of the *Rare Coin Review* an offering of some of the best-selling books produced by the Vestal Press. This publisher, in business since 1961, has achieved an international reputation for the quality of its products. Admittedly, some of the topics are a bit obscure—at least to our present audience, which is primarily numismatic—but, on the other hand, we've always believed that most collectors are interested in things besides eating, sleeping, paying taxes, and collecting coins. Best of all, the Vestal Press books, which have never been offered at a discount by the Vestal Press, are offered here as part of our regular Confidential Discount Offer (see the introduction to the present book section), whereby you can take a 10% to 20% discount, depending on the size of your order!

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## Liked Our Last Issue

The following is from SC:

I really liked *Rare Coin Review* No. 70. The articles are terrific. Hugh Cooper is a genius, and I hope you print or reprint more of what he writes. I have always liked what Tom LaMarre has had to say—where does he get all of his information? To say that Robert W. Julian is worth reading is like saying the *Mona Lisa* is beautiful—no need to do it, it stands for itself. I also enjoyed Kenneth Lowe's story about the coin hoard. Articles like this make one want to go out and buy coins—they are so fascinating. One more thing to mention about the articles: The 'My Favorite Coin' feature was very surprising to me, for I thought everyone would concentrate on the MCMVII High Relief double eagle, for it has received so much publicity and is so beautiful. I was really amazed to find that so many world-class experts had such diverse opinions. Do you know what you should have done to make it even more interesting? You should have sent each of these experts some coins to have graded, and then compare the grading differences which would certainly have been evident.

happence may readily be found showing this reverse in fine condition.

In 1942 two articles titled "Connecticut and Vermont Coppers of British Type" were published in *The Numismatist* by Howard Kurth. They appeared in the February and July issues. In his first article, in the next to the last paragraph, he discusses the reverse die of the Vermont "BRITANNIA" copper. He speculates: "As a makeshift emergency, or to save the trouble of making a new die, one of the 'BRITANNIA' dies might have been used to serve as a Vermont reverse. This theory would be substantiated if a counterfeit British halfpence could be found struck with this same reverse die."

When he wrote this first article he apparently was not aware of Ryder's or Betts' information which stated that the Vermont "BRITANNIA" reverse die was indeed found used with counterfeit halfpence. After the first article was published, he acquired an imitation British halfpence in Fine condition that was struck with the same reverse die, and he also became aware of Ryder's information. In his follow-up article, after comparing the poor condition of the reverse die when used to strike the Vermont "BRITANNIA" versus the good condition of the die when used to strike the counterfeit halfpence, he writes:

After making this comparative study, we are more than ever convinced that the invariably "poor" condition of the BRITANNIA reverse, when found in combination with the Vermont obverse, is not due to wear. Observe the relative sharpness of the lettering and date when the same die was combined with its original mate—the George III obverse. For some reason or other, probably economy, it was decided to make this fine reverse die serve in the striking of coppers for Vermont. To make the new marriage more compatible than it otherwise would be, some attempt was apparently made to obliterate the word "BRITANNIA" by abrading the die with a file. Naturally, other shallow parts of the die suffered from this rather harsh operation. Britannia's left knee and the globe on which she was seated were entirely erased. The date, too, was almost completely obliterated, though whether this was intentional or not we do not know.

## Vlack 18-87C



■ Atlee halfpence (Vlack 18-87C). This specimen is a later issue of this variety and it was struck just before the reverse die was lightly lapped. It shows the weakening reverse legend and the weak date area. Also, note the diagonal die break above Britannia's head which first appeared in combination 19-87C.

Further down in the next paragraph he also writes:

"If this condition [the Poor condition of the Vermont 'BRITANNIA' reverse] were due to wear of the die, as previously supposed, then specimens would be found showing various more moderate stages of wear."

John Richardson updated the Vermont copper varieties in 1947. His article titled "The Copper Coins of Vermont" contained a foreword by Howard Kurth and was published in *The Numismatist*. His description of the reverse die of the Vermont "BRITANNIA" copper follows:

"The reverse is always found in poor condition, the date not showing, and the legend indistinguishable. It was once thought that this was owing to a badly worn die, but now it is generally believed to have been an actual mutilation purposely done to destroy the effect of belonging to the reverse of a counterfeit British halfpenny which it originally did."

Finally in Kenneth Bressett's modern study of the Vermont copper coinage he takes the middle of the road when discussing the reverse die of the "Vermont Britannia" copper. His study, titled *Vermont Copper Coinage*, was published in 1976 as part of the American Numismatic Society's *Studies on Money in Early America*. He labels the die as reverse V and describes it as follows:

"Very large seated figure with breasts partially exposed. Date below single line. Legend and date always weak, as these features were either worn or intentionally removed from the die. In late state a massive die crack covers left half of date area, and a heavy flaw runs from head to second N."

A summary of what has been written concerning the controversy surrounding the Vermont "BRITANNIA" reverse die indicates the following:

1. Betts concluded that the die was worn out from striking a counterfeit halfpence before it was combined with the Vermont obverse. He arrived at this conclusion because he had counterfeit halfpence in his possession, struck from the Vermont "BRITANNIA" reverse die, in which one was strongly struck while another was weakly struck along the edge.

2. Ryder probably repeated Betts' observation when he wrote that the die was badly worn.

3. Kurth advanced the theory that the reverse die was purposely defaced. Apparently he based this conclusion upon his examination of only one

## Vlack 20-87C



■ Atlee halfpence (Vlack 20-87C). Earliest die combination of reverse 87C showing the die in its finest condition.

counterfeit halfpence which was struck with the same reverse die. This halfpence had a strong reverse and was likely Vlack 19-87C, because this variety was plated in Kurth's foreword in Richardson's article. Kurth apparently was not aware of Betts' claim that there were counterfeit halfpence with the same reverse that were weakly struck along the circumference. Ironically, he wrote: "If this condition were due to wear of the die, as previously supposed, then specimens would be found showing various more moderate stages of wear." As it turns out, there are counterfeit halfpence that do show moderate stages of wear of the subject reverse die.

4. Richardson repeated Kurth's claim that the die was not worn, but, rather, purposely defaced to remove the BRITANNIA legend.

5. Bressett repeats the previous claims that the legend and date were either worn or intentionally removed from the die.

The Vermont "BRITANNIA" reverse die (Bressett V, Vlack-87C) was

combined with several halfpence obverse dies to create the following varieties: Vlack 18-87C, 19-87C, 20-87C, 21-87C, and 23-87C. By examining specimens of each halfpence variety the reverse die condition can be determined and an emission sequence established. Reverse die 87C is at its sharpest when combined with obverse 20. When it is combined with obverse 19, a small diagonal die crack develops just above Britannia's head. During its combination with obverse 18 the left side of the legend and the date begin to noticeably weaken. Late issues of variety 18-87C were struck from a moderately worn reverse die that is characteristic of the Vermont "BRITANNIA

**"The reverse is always found in poor condition..."**

reverse, but not as developed. The reverse die of variety 18-87C can also be identified by a thin vertical die crack on the obverse die that extends through the effigy's neck into the shoulder mail. Very rare variety 21-II-87C shows the same weakness as the late struck 18-87C specimens. Lastly, the

**"This muling was intentionally done and not a mere mix-up of dates."**

A close examination of the reverse legend of the first halfpence die variety (20-87C) reveals that the letters were unevenly sunk into the die along the left side. The tops of the letters were shallowly cut into the die while the bottoms of the letters were deeper into the die. Thus, from the onset this anomaly resulted in a weak impression along the top of the left side of the legend. After the die cracked in combination 19-87C, the impression of the tops of the letters slowly became weaker and so did the date area. This suggests that the face of the die was gradually deforming and becoming convex. This phenomenon did not occur evenly around the circumference of the die and appears to have been at its worst in the date area. Also, near the end of its combination with halfpence obverse 18 the face of the die appears to have been lightly lapped. This abrasion was done lightly enough that high-grade early issue Vermont "BRITANNIA" coppers still show the small diagonal die break above Britannia's head. However, the lapping did remove more detail from the die. Specifically, it further weakened the legend and date, and it removed some of the low relief area from the central device, such as most of Britannia's right leg and some of the globe. When the die was finally used to strike the Vermont "BRITANNIA" coppers, the previously described die failure mechanism continued until the die catastrophically failed. Kenneth Bressett describes the final die state as follows: "In late state a massive die crack covers left half of date area, and a heavy flaw runs from head to second N."

This die state study of reverse die Vlack-87C during its halfpence usage reveals no strong evidence that the legend was deliberately removed from the die. Instead it shows that the weak legend and date resulted from its heavy usage in coining halfpence. Thus, this study supports Wyllis Betts' observation and conclusion which he made over a century ago: "The Vermont 'BRITANNIA' reverse die had indeed been ... worn out in striking halfpence before its use began with the Vermont obverse." Howard Kunth's conclusion that the die was deliberately defaced to remove the legend is unfounded and a result of incomplete study. He apparently arrived at his conclusion by inspecting only one reverse die linked halfpence variety. Also, he was not aware of Betts' claim that there were several reverse die-linked halfpence varieties, and that one of these varieties showed the same weakness around the edge as the Vermont "BRITANNIA" copper.

The question also arises as to why this halfpence reverse die was used with a Vermont obverse die. The large number of extant Vermont "BRITANNIA" coppers suggests that this muling was intentionally done and not a mere mix-up of dies. Howard Kunth is probably correct in his reasoning when he stated that it was done "... as a makeshift emergency, or to save the trouble of making a new die. ..." At the time when the Vermont "BRITANNIA" was struck the future of the state coinages was not bright. Shortly after Machin's Mills began operation the Constitution had been hammered out in Philadelphia and given to the states for ratification. On June 21, 1788 the Constitution became law when the ninth state, New Hampshire, ratified. New York, where Machin's Mills was located, ratified on July 26, 1788. Soon, only the new federal government would have the right to mint coins. Thus, with their future doomed, Machin's Mills probably struck the Vermont "BRITANNIA" mule for economical reasons. Today, the curious "Vermont Britannia" copper represents the beginning of the end of the state coinage era.

## Vlack 23-87C



■ Atlee halfpence (Vlack 23-87C). The last halfpence variety struck before the reverse die was used to strike the Vermont "BRITANNIA" copper. The die has been lapped. The left side of the legend and the date are weakly struck. The last two digits of the date (87) faintly show. With this specimen, only the bottom of the letters FR can be faintly seen on the left side of the legend. The remainder of the legend on the left side does not show, probably because of the poor planchet condition.

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Photos of Atlee halfpence Vlack 23-87C are the courtesy of the Colonial Newsletter Foundation. Photos of the Vermont "BRITANNIA" are courtesy of Mike Ringo. The other photos are from the author.

## Ken Bressett's Favorite Coin: Pine Tree Shilling

Editor's note: The following submission from Kenneth E. Bressett arrived too late to be included in our two-part "My Favorite Coin" article, but we are pleased to print it here.

Mention the Massachusetts Pine Tree shilling and nearly everyone responds with some degree of recognition. Many remember the Hawthorne tale of John Hull using these coins to equal the weight of his daughter, Hannah, for her dowry. To others it (more accurately) represents the first attempt of our founding fathers to issue an authorized coinage to facilitate the budding American economy. Still others may recall how the date 1652 was perpetuated for 30 years to deceive the King of England.

Many of these popular beliefs are not substan-



ABOVE:

Pine Tree Shilling

tiated by John Hull's personal diary, but that is immaterial in light of the real historical importance of the Massachusetts silver pieces as the cornerstone

of our nation's coinage.

These coins are etched in my mind as bits of romantic lore. Memory of such a piece illustrating my grammar school history book remains as a latent image associated with other visions of our Pilgrim forefathers, Puritan Boston, and things homely and pleasant, like Thanksgiving.

It is the myriad visions that this coin evokes that rank it as a coinage classic and my personal favorite. Knowing that we still do not have a full understanding of when, where, and how these pieces were made continues to prompt me to investigate both the numismatic and historical background of this enchanting series of coins.

Kenneth E. Bressett, editor of *A Guide Book of U.S. Coins*, is a prolific author and historian, and has been prominent in numismatics for many years.

• THE •

# CHRIS SCHENKEL

## COLLECTION

Additional items from  
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U.S. Coins & Currency – Lots 3001-3511
- IV. Wednesday Afternoon – November 14 – 1:00 pm Sharp.  
Numismatic Americana – Lots 4001-4471
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### The Unique "Banana Nose" Copper First Auction Appearance



5369 "1770" or "1772" circulating American counterfeit copper. VF-20. **Rarity-9, unique.** 140.6 grains. 27.6mm vertical, 27.8mm horizontal diameter. 145°. Well struck (for the dies) on a planchet cut from rolled strip. Edge rounded, not square, believed diagnostic of the native American planchet cutter cross-section, the British style cutter is believed to have left a squared off edge behind. **First auction appearance, this specimen plated in *The Colonial Newsletter*, v.19, n.1 (March 1980), seq.p.705 (TN-89). Unlisted by Betts, Vlack.**

The obverse and reverse dies appear to be the same hand, a naive and untutored one. The remarkably expressive lack of die engraving skill visible on this example is very reminiscent of that seen on the reverse of Lot 1739 from our recently completed September auction, a "1771" circulating counterfeit copper. The obverse of this piece bears a surprisingly crudely drawn head of a male figure, facing to the left, hand engraved, not from a prepared punch. He is laureated, the inspiration possibly being the triple leaved Connecticut; three leaves can be seen protruding from the top of his head, reminiscent of an abbreviated "Mohawk" hairstyle, while behind his neck are five die marks suggestive of the balance of the wreath, with two ribbon ends draping down below. The face is virtually featureless, save for a large, oval eye, three short lines apparently a half-hearted attempt at expressing a mouth, and a remarkably lengthened nose, properly a proboscis, which has given this unique copper its "Banana Nose" sobriquet. Behind the figure's head is the word GEORGIVS; both G's were punched into the die backwards and upside down, the other letters being correctly placed for their final appearance on struck examples. Both G's appear to have been from prepared letter punches: O may have been; E, R, I, V, S were clearly engraved into the die by hand. There appears to be no presently recognizable sign of either a regnal number or continuation of the inscription to the left of the figure's head. There is a barely perceptible line in the field at 8:30, but this may simply be a die scratch. There are irregularities before the elongated appendage which are vaguely suggestive of letters, but even under magnification they do not yield their secrets, if any. The reverse shows a long, thin, spidery figure of Liberty seated to the right. Her legs are crossed before her, she appears to be seated upon an irregularly shaped outline reminiscent of a combination of the rock and shield found on British halfpennies of the period, she holds a long staff in her right hand and in her left an abbreviated branch with two sub-branches running for a short distance leftward into the field. Her figure was clearly handcut into the die, and not sunk from a prepared punch. The letters BRITAN run around the right edge from 2:00 to 5:00; 1A are isolated in the upper left field at 10:00. All letters were handcut, none punched. Below the exergual line is the date, hand engraved, expressed as "1770" or "1772"; the final digit bears similarities to both numerals, and can be read in both ways. On the reverse, faintly from 1:00 to 3:00, is the

outline of the planchet cutter edge; this suggests that the planchet used to coin this example was part of a run of at least two other planchets, further suggesting that more than one "Banana Nose" copper was originally struck.

The identity of the obverse figure is unknown, of course. The lack of a regnal number on the obverse was probably inadvertent, and so its absence should not be taken as suggesting that George I is portrayed. The piece has been called "satirical," largely on stylistic grounds, but this characterization appears to be unfairly harsh given the obvious naivety of the "diecutter" responsible for this masterpiece. Were it accurate, for example, then most of these extremely rare circulating counterfeits (as B & M 990:1739) would also have to be classed as "satirical." It is this writer's opinion that the present example was a locally produced circulating counterfeit, probably of the 1783-1790 period, most likely toward the end of that date span.

Over the years, the consignor of this piece has corresponded with other individuals regarding it. Richard Pickler is said to have suggested that this piece resembled the George Washington Ugly Head copper, but believed the letters were different. Ian Carradice of the British Museum believed that it imitated a George III halfpenny, was unsure as to whether it was a British or American product, but stated specifically that there were no records of another such piece in the British Museum files. Warren Baker believed that it shared some characteristics of the Blacksmiths Tokens, specifically Wood-34 & 35, but was, in his opinion, an earlier product than those. Baker was firm in his conviction that this was of North American manufacture.

It is the present writer's opinion that this item is the "saved remnant" of a low-mintage circulating counterfeit struck in the Northern Colonies (i.e., north of the Delaware River) prior to the Coppers Panic of 1789, probably shortly before. It bears no similarity, whatsoever, to contemporary British "Evasion" halfpennies, nor, for that matter, to their counterfeit counterparts. Its style is far too naive for it to have been a British product, but is very similar to that seen on others also believed to be of American manufacture.

For a contemporary circulating counterfeit, the weight of this piece is particularly robust. At 140.6 grains it is just shy of four grains lighter than the legal Connecticut standard, not quite 10 grains short of the legal New Jersey standard, and nearly 30 grains heavier than the earlier Vermont standard. As the Connecticut standard was the British one for halfpennies, it is nearly as "good weight" as a contemporary British lawful halfpenny. We note that the "1771" circulating counterfeit copper referenced above weighed 131.7 grains, which was also fairly high for a contemporary product. It does not appear to the present writer that this was a Machin's Mills product, since the die engraving work on the Machin's products was far superior to that seen here, and their weights were usually lower. The diameter of this struck specimen falls comfortably in the range for most Connecticut coppers, as well as some Vermonts, and it is quite conceivable that the planchet cutter used to punch the blank coined into this example was of the same "species" as used elsewhere by legal mints.

*The Centinel that appeared in the Weekly Advertiser  
Boston Dec 21, 1785 p. 3  
Some article in  
Massachusetts Centinel Dec 24, 1785  
Boston p. 3*

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eminent physicians have learnedly wrote  
on the nature of ailments, but have made  
little or no reformation in epicurism.—  
People pay little regard to any new doctrine  
which abolishes an old custom, and  
would think their liberty in danger, did  
they not possess the freedom to eat and  
drink as they please, even if they were  
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comitant attendants. It has been hu-  
mourously observed, by a learned for-  
eigners, that our life is like a comedy,  
where the whole business and plot is  
eating: Breakfast is the prologue; dinner  
the interlude, and supper the epilogue;  
we reverse this rule of Cato, *Eat to live,*  
*and live to eat.* It is too true that we  
generally pass the bounds of nature,  
and fall out into superfluities; and  
that there is as much luxury and ambi-  
tion at our tables as in our dress. Our  
primitive fathers could drink of the sim-  
pid stream and be satisfied, whilst their  
hospitable board was a stranger to lux-  
ury. Had Plato lived in our age, he  
would have been more surprised than he  
was at Scicily: When that Philosopher  
returned to Athens from his travels, he  
was asked, "What he saw remarkable in  
Scicily?" He replied, "I saw a mon-  
ster in nature; a man who eat two meals  
in one day!" Temperance augments  
things that are pleasant; nor has the  
greatest epicure that *Gout* ever his artful  
delicacies, which nature gives to the  
honestly diet of the peasant.—Health is  
the hand-maid of temperance, and they  
are most happy in their health, who eat  
for hunger and drink for thirst: Human  
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commence to consider the expediency of  
altering the mode of punishment for pet-  
ty crimes; and of obliging such as are  
convicted of them, to work out their sal-  
vation, not with fear and trembling,  
but with—the *will and hammer.*  
"The new State of Vermont, from a  
state of anarchy and lawless confusion,  
is softening down to a happier condition.  
Their courts of Law are regularly held,  
and Justice can be obtained through its  
proper channel.—The policy of the State  
is managed with a consistency and ener-  
gy as bid fair to transform the late  
dreary wilderness into as fair a Repub-  
lic as any in the Confederation."  
"Considerable quantities of base coin  
are now in circulation—A copper one  
is imitation of French guineas, gilt; are  
very current—they are dated 1733, are  
larger and thicker than the true ones—  
A copper coin, washed with silver, are  
frequently passed for English six-pences,  
they are much larger than good ones—  
these, with quantities of what are called  
coppers, but of a baser metal passing,  
should put people on their guard, not on-  
ly to prevent being cheated, but to stop  
their circulation."  
Tuesday se'night the Lady of the  
Rev. PATER TRACHTER was safely de-  
livered of a promising Son, and last Lord's  
Day Mr. Thatcher baptized it by the  
name of SAMUEL COOPER, as a tes-  
timony of his esteem for his late worthy  
predecessor.  
By a gentleman from Quebec,  
and letters of late dated from London, we are  
informed that the Lieutenant-Governor  
of the Province of New Brunswick—

doubt but the separation took place at  
the surface before drawn up: This first  
gave him an idea of this noble project,  
without having even one principle of  
the hydrostatic laws. The hypothesis,  
that the salt water is drawn up to the  
clouds in water-spouts, and there by a  
certain operation of the air, while it is  
expanding, and dispersing in the clouds,  
is separated from the saline particles,  
must be exploded, by this and several  
other new theories. From what I can  
gather, by the character and conversa-  
tion of Mr. Allen, both his theory and  
machinery must be very simple.  
"I should conjecture, by some pecu-  
liar temperature, and action of the air  
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and subtle float upon, and be received  
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may be made compact for a life, will  
wear as his own shade in as long  
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and be very little liable to derangement.  
"You have lately heard the lectures  
of the celebrated Doctor MOYSE, on  
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be able to reconcile this daring theory  
to this discovery: Notwithstanding as yet we  
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*Mass Centinel  
Dec 21, 1785*

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Mass Centinel

Dec 21, 1785

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Attachment

FORM #602

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"I should conjecture, from peculiar temperature, and action of the air on the surface, he produces the effect to sink the grosser particles, while the pure and subtle float upon, to be received free from salt.—Whatever may be the method, I am sure it must be simple, and therefore it will be much more useful to mankind—he showed me the apparatus may be made compact for a trifle, will wear (as his own phrase is) as long as stem, keel and stern-post of a ship, and be very little liable to derangement.

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Mass Centinel  
Dec 27, 1785

|                                |       |                                  |       |
|--------------------------------|-------|----------------------------------|-------|
| 1717 Rosa Am'na 2d II ....     | 20 00 | 1785 & 1786 Stars-eagle          | 20 00 |
| (1717) " 1d I .....            | 10 00 | 1785 & 1786 Stars-Justice        | 10 00 |
| (1717) " ½d ½ .....            | 10 00 | 1783 & 1786 Stars-eye .....      | 20 00 |
| 1722 " 1 penny .....           | 1 50  | 1786 Indian, Massachusetts cent  | 40    |
| 1722 " ½ penny .....           | 1 00  | 1787 " " ½ " 1 00                |       |
| 1722 " farthing .....          | 1 50  | 1788 " " cent 50                 |       |
| 1723 " " 5 00                  |       | 1788 " " ½ cent 1 25             |       |
| 1723 Rosa Ameri " 2 00         |       | 1787 " arrows in left claw, cent | 10 00 |
| No date Rosa Sine Spina ½d     | 25 00 | 1787 Sundial, Franklin cent      | 30    |
| 1723 Crowned rose 1d .....     | 2 00  | 1787 " names of states on links  | 15 00 |
| 1723 " ½d .....                | 1 50  | " Fugio omitted .....            | 15 00 |
| 1724 " ½d .....                | 10 00 | 1789 Mott's jewelers token       | 50    |
| 1723 " farthing .....          | 1 50  | 1790 New Yorke in America, brass | 5 00  |
| 1723 Rosa Ameri ½d .....       | 3 00  | 1794 Talbot Allum & Lee ½d       | 50    |
| 1723 " Geo II 1d .....         | 50 00 | 1795 " ½d .....                  | 1 00  |
| 1723 Wood's Hibernia, no rocks | 50    | 1796 Children, Brit. settlements | 15 00 |
| 1722 " " bet. harp & " 5 00    |       | 1796 " one half penny " 15 00    |       |
| 1722 " harp to right 1 00      |       |                                  |       |
| 1723 " " ½d .....              | 20    |                                  |       |
| 1723 " " farthing 50           |       |                                  |       |
| 1724 " " ½d .....              | 40    |                                  |       |
| 1724 " " farthing 75           |       |                                  |       |
| 1766 No stamps, Pitt ½d ..     | 1 50  |                                  |       |
| 1773 Virginia ½d .....         | 1 50  |                                  |       |
| 1773 " smaller .....           | 25    |                                  |       |
| U. S. A. Bar cent .....        | 2 00  |                                  |       |
| 1760 Voce Populi ½d .....      | 25 00 |                                  |       |
| 1776 Pine tree, Mass. ½d ..    | 50 00 |                                  |       |
| 1778 Indian, Non dependens     | 25 00 |                                  |       |
| 1783 Eye, Nova Constellatio    | 30    |                                  |       |
| 1786 " " 25 00                 |       |                                  |       |
| 1788 " Nova Constellatio       | 40    |                                  |       |
| 1785 " " in script .....       | 40    |                                  |       |
| 1785 " Immunis Columbia        | 20 00 |                                  |       |
| 1783 Georgius Triumpho ..      | 1 00  |                                  |       |
| (1785) Triangle Kentucky       | 1 50  |                                  |       |
| " lettered edge " 2 00         |       |                                  |       |
| 1787 Indian, Immlca Tyrannus   | 02 00 |                                  |       |
| 1785 " stars in circle .....   | 20 00 |                                  |       |
| 1785 " larger stars .....      | 20 00 |                                  |       |
| 1785 " " America 20 00         |       |                                  |       |

Besides the above there were a large number of what are called Buntingtown coppers, issued during the reign of Geo. II & Geo. III, mostly caricatures of their English and Irish half pennies, with quaint and interesting mottoes which sell at from 25 to 50c each. Some of these were made in Great Britain some in Canada and some in the States. They were issued without any legal or state authority, but were generally accepted as coin.

In fact during the early history of our country, not having any gold silver or copper mines worth mentioning to draw from, our circulating medium in Gold was British Guineas, Spanish Doubloons, French Louis, and Portuguese Joos; in silver, British shillings and crowns, Spanish dollars with its divisions, and French crowns & francs, with a large admixture or the coinage of other nations, which was gradually

superseded by our mint coinage, but for copper most anything in the shape of a cent was allowed to pass, until the coinage of our nickel & bronze cents, which effectually supplanted them.

### CONNECTICUT CENTS.

|                                   |       |
|-----------------------------------|-------|
| 1737 deer-hammers, Granby         | 20 00 |
| 1737 " I am good Copper           | 40 00 |
| 1739 " " "                        | 50 00 |
| 1737 " Connecticut .....          | 60 00 |
| 1737 " axe, J cut my way          | 30 00 |
| No date " " "                     | 35 00 |
| 1785 Auctori Conne, head to right | 20    |
| 1786-87-88 " " "                  | 25    |
| 1785 " Negro head                 | 50    |
| 1785 " Laughing head              | 75    |
| 1787 " head to left               | 10    |
| 1785-86-88 " " "                  | 25    |
| 1786-87 " Et lib Inde             | 50    |
| 1787-88 " Auctori Connect         | 30    |

Many minor types of Ct. and N. J. cts.

### NEW JERSEY CENTS.

|                                 |       |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| 1786 Eagle-shield, E Pluribus   | 20 00 |
| 1787 Justice " Immunis Columbia | 25 00 |
| 1786 Horse head, Nova Caesarea  | 30    |
| 1786 " date under beam " 50 00  |       |
| 1787 " large size               | 25    |
| 1787 " smaller " .....          | 20    |
| 1788 " " .....                  | 40    |
| 1788 " Fox type .....           | 40    |
| 1788 " E Pluribus .....         | 1 00  |
| 1781 " head to left .....       | 1 00  |

### NEW YORK CENTS.

|                                 |       |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| 1786 Head-Justice Non Vi ..     | 40 00 |
| No date, Head-shield " ..       | 25 00 |
| 1787 Indian-eagle, Neo Eboracus | 30 00 |
| 1787 " arms, Excelsior          | 30 00 |
| 1787 Geo Clinton " .....        | 75 00 |
| 1786 Eagle-arms " .....         | 30 00 |
| 1787 " " " .....                | 30 00 |

|                                   |      |
|-----------------------------------|------|
| 1787 Immunis Columbia ..          | 5 00 |
| 1787 Nova Eborac Liberty to right | 1 00 |
| 1787 " Liberty to left            | 1 00 |

### VERMONT CENTS.

|                              |       |
|------------------------------|-------|
| 1785 Head-Justice, Immune    | 10 00 |
| 1785 Justice-eye .....       | 12 00 |
| 1785 Sun-eye Vermont .....   | 1 00  |
| 1785 " Vermontis .....       | 1 50  |
| 1786 " Vermontensium .....   | 1 00  |
| 1786 Vermont Auctori .....   | 30    |
| 1787 " " .....               | 25    |
| 1788 " " .....               | 30    |
| 1786 " Baby head .....       | 50    |
| 1787 " Et lib Inde .....     | 50    |
| 1787 " Britania .....        | 40    |
| 1787 Geo III Rex Inde et lib | 1 00  |

### Washington Pieces, (Copper.)

|                                    |       |
|------------------------------------|-------|
| 1783 Unity States, wreath ..       | 50    |
| 1783 Liberty seated, United States | 50    |
| 1785 Bust-Confederatio .....       | 20 00 |
| 1785 " Eagle .....                 | 20 00 |
| No date " E Pluribus .....         | 25 00 |
| 1791 Large eagle cent .....        | 3 00  |
| 1791 Small " .....                 | 3 50  |
| 1791 Liverpool half penny ..       | 3 00  |
| 1792 G. Washington, Eagle          | 25 00 |
| 1792 Washington " .....            | 25 00 |
| 1792 Gen. Am. Armies .....         | 5 00  |
| No date Geo. Wash'n. born " 5 00   |       |
| " " eagle .....                    | 5 00  |
| 1792 Naked bust .....              | 20 00 |
| 1793 Bust-ship .....               | 10 00 |
| 1795 Grate cent .....              | 1 00  |
| No date, Double header ..          | 50    |
| 1795 Liberty & Security 1d         | 5 00  |
| 1795 " ½d .....                    | 1 00  |
| No date " 1d .....                 | 1 25  |
| " North Wales .....                | 75    |
| (1799) Success to U. S. brass      | 1 00  |
| " " smaller .....                  | 1 50  |



## GLYCERINE

A pleasant and soothing application for Chapped Hands, Sore  
Lips and Irritated Surfaces.

**W. F. DUNHAM, Druggist**

Cor. Van Buren and Clinton Sts., CHICAGO, ILL.

ESTABLISHED

1903

IN 1930

# PRICE CATALOGUE

OF ALL



## United States Coins

GOLD, SILVER & COPPER.

PRICE **10** CENTS.

## STAMP & COIN EXCHANGE,

212 Broadway ~~13 Ann St.~~ New York City.

ENTRANCE ALSO AT 13 to 21 PARK ROW  
OPPOSITE THE POST OFFICE.

over their heads when it rained; but there was not much business then to call people out in the rain.

"Those who had beef to sell, used to drive it under an apple tree, and kill, dress and sell it there. The best cuts sold for six coppers (twenty-four coppers to a shilling) a pound; and pork sold for three coppers a pound. These coppers were made by Capt. Machin, out at the Big Pond. I took about a peck of them once down to Schultz's mill and got two bushels of flour. I remember it because Schultz sat down on the floor to count them, and I had to wait until he was done. The very highest price for mutton was six shillings a head for a large fat sheep of the old fashioned breed. Good horses averaged seventy-five and eighty dollars. My father bought one of Hugh Stevenson and paid one hundred dollars for it. This was an extraordinary price, but it was an extraordinary horse, and had been taken from the Indians. We called him the Sturdy Beggar. This purchase was during the war; but the butchering business was long after it.

"Broad street only extended about three hundred feet below Grand. It was there fenced in and Mr. Guthries had his blacksmith shop in the middle of it. There was no house below Grand street, on the Glebe, when I first remember it. There might have been one or two before the war. The houses that were standing after the war were poorly built, and being generally without foundations, didn't last long. The old Ward house stood in the hollow. It must have been as old a house as ours, but I don't remember whether it had any sawed stuff in it or not. There is nothing to mark the spot where it stood except a chestnut tree, very old, on the land of J. J. Monell. The Wards had a cider mill of very primitive construction. The apples were pounded in a trough and the cheese pressed by placing a heavy beam on it. The chestnut tree that I have referred to was so large, when I was a boy, that they used to saw the limbs off to get the nuts. The elm tree in Liberty street is about my age. I remember it when it was a mere whip and so slender that it could scarcely bear the weight of the mower's scythes while they rested from their work in the meadow.

"The old story of the seizure of the Palatine church, and the carrying off of the bell, I have heard repeated a good many times years ago. It was always said that it was Burger Meynders that was buried under the falling door during the fracas. The old bell was the smartest little bell that I ever heard. You could hear it ring clear down to Murderer's creek. Burger

HISTORY  
OF THE  
Colon of Newburgh;

BY E. M. RUTTENBER.



Illustrated  
WITH  
VIEWS, MAPS, PORTRAITS, &C.

E. M. RUTTENBER & CO., PRINTERS

A PARTICULARLY GOOD RUN OF CHINESE DOLLARS & TAELS

|    |                                                                                                                                    |    |                                                                                                                                                            |       |
|----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| 1  | An Hwei. Dollar. 1897. CW 1 VF+ 6.50                                                                                               | 47 | China. Set struck at Tein Tsin in 1906: Tael, ½ tael or 5 mace, 1/5 tael or 2 mace, & 1 mace. Four pieces, Kann 934-937. A rare & desirable set. Unc ----- | 67.50 |
| 2  | - Dollar. 1898. ASTC in field. CW 6. VF and quite scarce -----                                                                     |    |                                                                                                                                                            | 5.50  |
| 3  | - Dollar. 1898. CW 10. VF -----                                                                                                    |    |                                                                                                                                                            | 3.75  |
| 4  | - Dollar. 1898. CW 14. VF -----                                                                                                    |    |                                                                                                                                                            | 3.75  |
| 5  | Pei Yang Arsenal in Chihli. Dollar. 24th Yr 1898. CW 35. ExF -----                                                                 | 48 | - Tein Tsin. Dollar. 1907. CW 20; Kann 212. Unc & rare -----                                                                                               | 6.00  |
| 6  | - Dollar. 25th Yr=1899. CW 40 F+ 3.00                                                                                              | 49 | - Tein Tsin. Dollar. 1910. CW 33; Kann 219. Unc & scarce -----                                                                                             | 18.75 |
| 7  | - Dollar. 29th Yr=1903 CW 23 F+ 3.75                                                                                               |    |                                                                                                                                                            | 13.50 |
| 8  | - Dollar. 34th Yr=1908 CW 28 VF+5.50                                                                                               | 50 | - Dollar. 1911. C/ 37. AU ----                                                                                                                             | 7.50  |
| 9  | Formosa. Crude dollar. 1837. God of Longevity. VF & scarce. -----                                                                  | 51 | Republic. General issues. Memento Dollar. 1912. Early strike, good workmanship. CW 1; K600 Unc ---                                                         | 22.50 |
| 10 | Hu Peh. Dollar. 1896. CW 69. Unc, exceptional in this shape; & with a rubber-stamp chop in black ink. An interesting & choice coin | 52 | - another, K 608; mass produced, inferior work. ExF -----                                                                                                  | 8.75  |
| 11 | - Tael. 1904. CW 11. VF ----                                                                                                       | 53 | - Sun Yat Sen - Republic of China. 1912. CW 2; K 603. Unc -----                                                                                            | 10.00 |
| 12 | - another, uncirculated ----                                                                                                       | 54 | - Dollar. Li Yuan Hung. 1912. With Cap. CW 5; K 638a. VF scarce                                                                                            | 15.00 |
| 13 | - Dollar. 1909. CW 16. VF ---                                                                                                      |    |                                                                                                                                                            | 5.50  |

A COLLECTION OF BUNGTON TOKENS

197 Five or six years ago I bought a mass of coins from B Max Mehl. Among these was a group of Bungtown coppers, which he had bought in the University of Penna collection. I showed these to my friend M L Peterson at the Smithsonian Institution, and he catalogued and published them in the NUMISMATIST about three years ago. There are 160 varieties, about 170 pieces in all. Each of the 160 varieties was illustrated in the NUMISMATIST article. Condition is markedly above average for these tokens; and altogether this is a most comprehensive collection -----225.00

A SMALL GROUP OF CHOICE UNC COPPERS

198 Belgium. Leopold I. 5c 1848. Red Unc ----- .75  
 199 - - - 10c 1848 Irridescent --- 1.00  
 200 - - - 20c nickel. 1861 Bust Unc .75  
 201 Bulgaria. 5 Stot. 1881 HEATON. Unc. (This small group of coins comes from the estate of a former official of the Heaton Co. Many of the coins are its products. Others must have been acquired in exchange with other

UNCIRCULATED FOREIGN COPPERS (Cont'd)

208 Frankfurt. Heller 1862. Pf -- .75  
 209 - Kreuzer. 1862. dull proof 1.00  
 210 - ½ Gulden 1862. Proof ----- 2.75  
 211 - Gulden. 1862. Y S. Proof - 3.75  
 212 - Taler. 1862. Yeo. S7 Pf -- 5.00  
 213 - 2 Tlr 1862. Liberty head. Proof, and somewhat scarce in this condition ----- 15.00  
 214 Haiti. Geffrard. 5 c 1863 Pf 2.00  
 215 - - 10 c 1863. Proof ----- 2.25  
 216 - - 20 c 1863. Proof ----- 2.50  
 217 - 2 cent. 1881. Proof ----- 3.75  
 218 Honduras. 1/8 Real 1870 Unc .75  
 219 - ¼ real. 1869. Unc ----- 1.00  
 220 - ½ Real. 1869. Unc ----- 1.00  
 221 - 1 Real. 1869, 70 Unc, each 1.50  
 222 Italy. 10 c 1862 M. Proof -- 1.50  
 223 Liberia. 1c 1847 Proof ----- 2.75  
 224 - 2 c 1847. Proof ----- 3.50  
 225 - 1 cent. 1862 Proof ----- 3.75  
 226 - 2 cents 1862. Proof ----- 3.75  
 227 Norway. Krone 1890 Proof --- 4.50  
 228 - 2 Krone. 1890. Proof ----- 7.50  
 229 Paraguay. 1c 1870 Unc ----- 1.75  
 230 - 2 c 1870 Uncirc ----- 2.00  
 231 - 2 c 1870. Proof ----- 3.00  
 232 - 4 c 1870. Prooflike ----- 3.00  
 233 Poland. 3 Grosze 1840 MW Unc 4.00  
 234 Rumania. 5 bani 1867 Proof - 1.00  
 235 - 10 Bani. 1867. Proof ----- 1.50  
 236 Sweden. 1/2 Riksdaler 1863. Proof ----- 1.50

|                                                                                   | Estimate |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 3136 Low 67 and 68. Both Uncirculated. 2 Pieces.                                  | (10.00)  |
| 3137 Low 62, 64, 69, 74 and 76. A nice group of 5 pieces, averaging Ext. Fine.    | (15.00)  |
| 3138 Lot of 5 pieces, Low 58, 67, 69, 78 and 80. Extremely Fine on the whole.     | (15.00)  |
| 3139 Low 83 and 98 in Uncirculated. 2 Pieces.                                     | (15.00)  |
| 3140 Low 69, 80, 94, 95 and 99. Average Very Fine. 5 Pieces in all.               | (14.00)  |
| 3141 Another lot of 5 pieces averaging Very Fine. Low 97, 98, 99, 107 and 110.    | (12.00)  |
| 3142 A third group of 5 pieces averaging Very Fine. Low 97, 98, 103, 107 and 109. | (12.00)  |
| 3143 Low 110, 113, 115, 123 and 124. Average Extremely Fine. 5 Pieces.            | (15.00)  |
| 3144 Low 111. A nice piece in Red Uncirculated, Proof-like.                       | (12.50)  |
| 3145 Low 120, 126 and 132 in Very Fine. Low 136, Extremely Fine. 4 Pieces.        | (20.00)  |
| 3146 Low 153. Extremely Fine.                                                     | (8.50)   |
| 3147 Low 155. Very Fine. RARE.                                                    | (15.00)  |
| 3148 An assorted lot of 10 pieces, averaging Fine to Very Fine. Some duplicates.  | (15.00)  |

#### COLONIAL BUNGTOWN TOKENS — Half Pence and Farthings

|                                                                                                          |         |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| 3149 A group of 15 different Buntown Halfpence pieces, averaging About Uncirculated.                     | (40.00) |
| 3150 A choice lot of 15 different Buntown Halfpence pieces in Extremely Fine.                            | (40.00) |
| 3151 Another choice group of Buntown Halfpennies in Extremely Fine. 15 Pieces, all different.            | (40.00) |
| 3152 15 Different Buntown Halfpence pieces, averaging Extremely Fine.                                    | (38.00) |
| 3153 Another group averaging Extremely Fine. 15 Pieces.                                                  | (38.00) |
| 3154 A third group of 15 different Halfpennies averaging Extremely Fine.                                 | (38.00) |
| 3155 Fourth group of 15 Halfpennies, all different, averaging Extremely Fine.                            | (38.00) |
| 3156 Buntown Halfpence pieces, a fifth group averaging Extremely Fine. 15 Pieces, all different.         | (38.00) |
| 3157 Buntown Halfpence pieces. 15 Different specimens. Average Very Fine.                                | (35.00) |
| 3158 Another group averaging Very Fine. 15 Pieces. All different.                                        | (35.00) |
| 3159 Buntown Halfpennies, 15 different pieces. Very Fine on the whole.                                   | (35.00) |
| 3160 Another group of 15 different Halfpennies averaging Very Fine.                                      | (30.00) |
| 3161 A lot of Buntown Halfpence pieces in Fine. 20 in all.                                               | (25.00) |
| 3162 Buntown Halfpennies, 15 different pieces, averaging Fine.                                           | (25.00) |
| 3163 Buntown Halfpennies, 15 different pieces, averaging Very Fine.                                      | (30.00) |
| 3164 Buntown Halfpennies, 20 pieces, averaging Very Good.                                                | (15.00) |
| 3165 Buntown Halfpennies, 40 pieces, Poor to Very Good.                                                  | (35.00) |
| 3166 Buntown Halfpennies, 40 pieces, averaging Good or better.                                           | (35.00) |
| 3167 Buntown Farthings, 12 different pieces. A choice Uncirculated lot.                                  | (20.00) |
| 3168 A group of 15 different Buntown Farthings, averaging Very Fine.                                     | (15.00) |
| 3169 12 Buntown Halfpennies, 15 Buntown Farthings. Average of group Good to Very Good. 27 Pieces in all. | (15.00) |

#### GAMBLING TOKENS OR SPIELMARKES

|                                                                                                            |         |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| 3170 Gambling Tokens or Spielmarkes. 36 Pieces, Half-Dime size. Extremely Fine.                            | (15.00) |
| 3171 Gambling Tokens or Spielmarkes. 15 Pieces of mixed sizes. Extremely Fine.                             | (10.00) |
| 3172 Gambling Tokens or Spielmarkes. 36 Pieces in Extremely Fine. Dime sized and larger.                   | (12.00) |
| 3173 Gambling Tokens or Spielmarkes. A group of 12 pieces in mixed sizes. Extremely Fine and Uncirculated. | (20.00) |
| 3174 Gambling Tokens or Spielmarkes. \$5.00 and \$10.00 Sizes. 22 Pieces in Extremely Fine.                | (15.00) |
| 3175 Gambling Tokens or Spielmarkes. \$20.00 Size. Extremely Fine. 8 Pieces in all.                        | (10.00) |

END OF SALE — THANK YOU

| LOT# | PRICE  | LOT# | PRICE  | LOT# | PRICE | LOT# | PRICE | LOT# | PRICE | LOT# | PRICE | LOT# | PRICE | LOT# | PRICE | LOT# | PRICE |
|------|--------|------|--------|------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|
| 2989 | 7.00   | 2946 | 40.00  | 3003 | 6.00  | 3060 | 5.25  | 3117 | 8.00  | 3174 | 18.50 |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 2990 | 7.00   | 2947 | 10.50  | 3004 | 15.00 | 3061 | 40.00 | 3118 | 6.00  | 3175 | 11.00 |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 2991 | 9.00   | 2948 | 20.00  | 3005 | 5.00  | 3062 | 8.00  | 3119 | 7.00  |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 2992 | 7.50   | 2949 | 8.50   | 3006 | 6.00  | 3063 | 25.00 | 3120 | 6.00  |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 2993 | 21.00  | 2950 | 25.00  | 3007 | 3.50  | 3064 | 9.00  | 3121 | 7.50  |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 2994 | 20.00  | 2951 | 6.50   | 3008 | 20.00 | 3065 | 13.00 | 3122 | 3.00  |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 2995 | 23.00  | 2952 | 3.00   | 3009 | 18.00 | 3066 | 14.00 | 3123 | 2.00  |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 2996 | 23.00  | 2953 | 11.00  | 3010 | 6.00  | 3067 | 91.00 | 3124 | 3.00  |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 2997 | 10.00  | 2954 | 13.00  | 3011 | 8.00  | 3068 | 91.00 | 3125 | 3.00  |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 2998 | 12.00  | 2955 | 16.50  | 3012 | 17.50 | 3069 | 16.00 | 3126 | 3.50  |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 2999 | 13.00  | 2956 | 8.00   | 3013 | 16.00 | 3070 | 20.00 | 3127 | 3.50  |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3000 | 17.00  | 2957 | 8.00   | 3014 | 12.50 | 3071 | 6.00  | 3128 | 4.00  |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3001 | 23.00  | 2958 | 18.00  | 3015 | 5.00  | 3072 | 17.00 | 3129 | 4.50  |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3002 | 13.00  | 2959 | 18.00  | 3016 | 5.00  | 3073 | 55.00 | 3130 | 4.00  |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3003 | 26.00  | 2960 | 26.00  | 3017 | 10.00 | 3074 | 8.00  | 3131 | 4.50  |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3004 | 23.00  | 2961 | 26.00  | 3018 | 7.00  | 3075 | 5.50  | 3132 | 8.00  |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3005 | 25.00  | 2962 | 26.00  | 3019 | 4.50  | 3076 | 9.00  | 3133 | 3.00  |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3006 | 21.00  | 2963 | 8.00   | 3020 | 30.00 | 3077 | 15.00 | 3134 | 4.00  |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3007 | 45.00  | 2964 | 8.00   | 3021 | 17.50 | 3078 | 8.00  | 3135 | 5.00  |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3008 | 62.50  | 2965 | 14.00  | 3022 | 22.00 | 3079 | 10.00 | 3136 | 4.50  |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3009 | 80.00  | 2966 | 25.00  | 3023 | 20.00 | 3080 | 12.50 | 3137 | 4.50  |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3010 | 210.00 | 2967 | 26.00  | 3024 | 22.00 | 3081 | 15.00 | 3138 | 3.50  |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3011 | 16.00  | 2968 | 11.00  | 3025 | 25.00 | 3082 | 17.00 | 3139 | 5.50  |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3012 | 7.50   | 2969 | 14.00  | 3026 | 5.50  | 3083 | 19.00 | 3140 | 3.50  |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3013 | 9.50   | 2970 | 14.00  | 3027 | 12.50 | 3084 | 9.00  | 3141 | 3.50  |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3014 | 7.50   | 2971 | 32.00  | 3028 | 2.00  | 3085 | 21.00 | 3142 | 3.50  |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3015 | 14.00  | 2972 | 14.00  | 3029 | 2.00  | 3086 | 18.00 | 3143 | 5.00  |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3016 | 20.00  | 2973 | 14.00  | 3030 | 2.50  | 3087 | 17.00 | 3144 | 4.00  |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3017 | 30.00  | 2974 | 115.00 | 3031 | 4.50  | 3088 | 5.00  | 3145 | 3.50  |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3018 | 235.00 | 2975 | 26.00  | 3032 | 7.50  | 3089 | 8.00  | 3146 | 10.00 |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3019 | 21.00  | 2976 | 75.00  | 3033 | 12.50 | 3090 | 11.00 | 3147 | 6.50  |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3020 | 19.00  | 2977 | 260.00 | 3034 | 7.00  | 3091 | 25.00 | 3148 | 23.00 |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3021 | 19.00  | 2978 | 36.00  | 3035 | 5.50  | 3092 | 27.00 | 3149 | 9.50  |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3022 | 10.00  | 2979 | 12.00  | 3036 | 4.50  | 3093 | 28.00 | 3150 | 10.50 |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3023 | 8.00   | 2980 | 22.00  | 3037 | 5.00  | 3094 | 25.00 | 3151 | 10.00 |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3024 | 18.00  | 2981 | 110.00 | 3038 | 3.00  | 3095 | 12.50 | 3152 | 10.00 |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3025 | 31.00  | 2982 | 62.50  | 3039 | 15.00 | 3096 | 20.00 | 3153 | 10.00 |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3026 | 12.00  | 2983 | 35.00  | 3040 | 6.00  | 3097 | 22.50 | 3154 | 18.00 |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3027 | 10.00  | 2984 | 16.00  | 3041 | 5.00  | 3098 | 22.50 | 3155 | 10.50 |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3028 | 6.00   | 2985 | 80.00  | 3042 | 10.50 | 3099 | 11.00 | 3156 | 16.50 |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3029 | 6.00   | 2986 | 20.00  | 3043 | 8.50  | 3100 | 20.00 | 3157 | 7.00  |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3030 | 14.00  | 2987 | 20.00  | 3044 | 20.00 | 3101 | 25.00 | 3158 | 7.00  |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3031 | 7.00   | 2988 | 25.00  | 3045 | 9.00  | 3102 | 20.00 | 3159 | 7.00  |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3032 | 15.00  | 2989 | 35.00  | 3046 | 14.50 | 3103 | 20.00 | 3160 | 7.50  |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3033 | 16.00  | 2990 | 12.50  | 3047 | 18.50 | 3104 | 12.00 | 3161 | 12.50 |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3034 | 15.00  | 2991 | 7.00   | 3048 | 8.50  | 3105 | 16.00 | 3162 | 5.50  |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3035 | 10.50  | 2992 | 9.00   | 3049 | 15.00 | 3106 | 20.00 | 3163 | 8.00  |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3036 | 8.00   | 2993 | 8.00   | 3050 | 15.00 | 3107 | 13.00 | 3164 | 15.00 |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3037 | 26.00  | 2994 | 12.50  | 3051 | 13.50 | 3108 | 10.00 | 3165 | 13.00 |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3038 | 26.00  | 2995 | 5.00   | 3052 | 15.50 | 3109 | 9.00  | 3166 | 16.00 |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3039 | 325.00 | 2996 | 22.50  | 3053 | 6.50  | 3110 | 20.00 | 3167 | 18.50 |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3040 | 10.00  | 2997 | 11.50  | 3054 | 33.00 | 3111 | 19.00 | 3168 | 13.00 |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3041 | 11.00  | 2998 | 7.50   | 3055 | 19.00 | 3112 | 3.50  | 3169 | 13.50 |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3042 | 8.00   | 2999 | 6.00   | 3056 | 16.00 | 3113 | 3.50  | 3170 | 7.00  |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3043 | 8.00   | 3000 | 30.00  | 3057 | 43.00 | 3114 | 4.00  | 3171 | 13.50 |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3044 | 22.00  | 3001 | 8.00   | 3058 | 41.00 | 3115 | 3.50  | 3172 | 7.00  |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
| 3045 | 150.00 | 3002 | 50.00  | 3059 | 12.50 | 3116 | 2.50  | 3173 | 13.00 |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |

# The Charles W. Neumoyer

COLLECTION OF

## United States, Foreign, Gold, Silver & Copper Coins Paper Money

Sale held in conjunction with the  
METROPOLITAN NEW YORK NUMISMATIC CONVENTION  
CATALOGUED AND SOLD BY

*Stack's*

123 West 57th Street

New York 19, N. Y.

| LOT# | PRICE | LOT# | PRICE | LOT# | PRICE | LOT# | PRICE |
|------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|
| 1    | 16.00 | 39   | 13.00 | 77   | 15.00 | 115  | 20.00 |
| 2    | 16.50 | 40   | 24.00 | 78   | 12.00 | 116  | 18.50 |
| 3    | 16.00 | 41   | 25.00 | 79   | 10.00 | 117  | 18.50 |
| 4    | 13.50 | 42   | 25.00 | 80   | 10.00 | 118  | 20.00 |
| 5    | 13.50 | 43   | 25.00 | 81   | 12.50 | 119  | 38.00 |
| 6    | 12.00 | 44   | 18.00 | 82   | 11.00 | 120  | 13.50 |
| 7    | 22.50 | 45   | 20.00 | 83   | 12.50 | 121  | 12.00 |
| 8    | 22.00 | 46   | 5.00  | 84   | 13.00 | 122  | 21.00 |
| 9    | 13.00 | 47   | 6.50  | 85   | 18.50 | 123  | 22.00 |
| 10   | 21.00 | 48   | 11.00 | 86   | 40.00 | 125  | 10.00 |
| 11   | 17.00 | 49   | 7.50  | 87   | 22.50 | 126  | 13.00 |
| 12   | 4.00  | 50   | 4.00  | 88   | 14.00 | 127  | 20.00 |
| 13   | 25.00 | 51   | 6.00  | 89   | 6.50  | 128  | 9.00  |
| 14   | 23.00 | 52   | 18.50 | 90   | 10.00 | 129  | 20.00 |
| 15   | 31.00 | 53   | 4.00  | 91   | 45.00 | 130  | 20.00 |
| 16   | 20.00 | 54   | 7.50  | 92   | 10.00 | 131  | 22.00 |
| 17   | 16.00 | 55   | 7.50  | 93   | 16.00 | 132  | 30.00 |
| 18   | 22.50 | 56   | 8.00  | 94   | 6.00  | 133  | 25.00 |
| 19   | 12.50 | 57   | 16.00 | 95   | 8.50  | 134  | 18.00 |
| 20   | 12.50 | 58   | 12.50 | 96   | 32.50 | 135  | 18.00 |
| 21   | 13.50 | 59   | 25.00 | 97   | 26.00 | 136  | 12.00 |
| 22   | 17.00 | 60   | 13.00 | 98   | 30.00 | 137  | 1.00  |
| 23   | 12.00 | 61   | 36.00 | 99   | 39.00 | 138  | 3.50  |
| 24   | 12.00 | 62   | 11.50 | 100  | 22.50 | 139  | 22.50 |
| 25   | 9.00  | 63   | 14.50 | 101  | 30.00 | 140  | 14.00 |
| 26   | 6.50  | 64   | 57.50 | 102  | 28.00 | 141  | 6.00  |
| 27   | 5.50  | 65   | 25.00 | 103  | 50.00 | 142  | 10.00 |
| 28   | 6.50  | 66   | 16.50 | 104  | 30.00 | 143  | 7.50  |
| 29   | 5.50  | 67   | 38.00 | 105  | 55.00 | 144  | 40.00 |
| 30   | 13.00 | 68   | 45.00 | 106  | 11.00 | 145  | 13.00 |
| 31   | 33.00 | 69   | 13.00 | 107  | 25.00 | 146  | 24.00 |
| 32   | 17.00 | 70   | 50.00 | 108  | 22.00 | 147  | 19.00 |
| 33   | 12.50 | 71   | 47.00 | 109  | 26.00 | 148  | 19.00 |
| 34   | 3.50  | 72   | 36.00 | 110  | 26.00 | 149  | 19.00 |
| 35   | 1.50  | 73   | 47.00 | 111  | 22.00 | 150  | 19.00 |
| 36   | 3.50  | 74   | 36.00 | 112  | 26.00 | 151  | 14.00 |
| 37   | 9.00  | 75   | 36.00 | 113  | 26.00 | 152  | 14.00 |

|      |                                                                              | Estimate |
|------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 3136 | Low 67 and 68, Both Uncirculated. 2 Pieces.                                  | (10.00)  |
| 3137 | Low 62, 64, 69, 74 and 76. A nice group of 5 pieces, averaging Ext. Fine.    | (15.00)  |
| 3138 | Lot of 5 pieces, Low 58, 67, 69, 78 and 80. Extremely Fine on the whole.     | (15.00)  |
| 3139 | Low 83 and 98 in Uncirculated. 2 Pieces.                                     | (15.00)  |
| 3140 | Low 69, 80, 94, 95 and 99. Average Very Fine. 5 Pieces in all.               | (14.00)  |
| 3141 | Another lot of 5 pieces averaging Very Fine. Low 97, 98, 99, 107 and 110.    | (12.00)  |
| 3142 | A third group of 5 pieces averaging Very Fine. Low 97, 98, 103, 107 and 109. | (12.00)  |
| 3143 | Low 110, 113, 115, 123 and 124. Average Extremely Fine. 5 Pieces.            | (15.00)  |
| 3144 | Low 111. A nice piece in Red Uncirculated. Proof-like.                       | (12.50)  |
| 3145 | Low 120, 126 and 132 in Very Fine. Low 136, Extremely Fine. 4 Pieces.        | (20.00)  |
| 3146 | Low 153, Extremely Fine.                                                     | (8.50)   |
| 3147 | Low 155, Very Fine. RARE.                                                    | (15.00)  |
| 3148 | An assorted lot of 10 pieces, averaging Fine to Very Fine. Some duplicates.  | (15.00)  |

#### COLONIAL BUNGTOWN TOKENS — Half Pence and Farthings

|      |                                                                                                     |         |
|------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| 3149 | A group of 15 different Buntown Halfpence pieces, averaging About Uncirculated.                     | (40.00) |
| 3150 | A choice lot of 15 different Buntown Halfpence pieces in Extremely Fine.                            | (40.00) |
| 3151 | Another choice group of Buntown Halfpennies in Extremely Fine. 15 Pieces, all different.            | (40.00) |
| 3152 | 15 Different Buntown Halfpence pieces, averaging Extremely Fine.                                    | (38.00) |
| 3153 | Another group averaging Extremely Fine. 15 Pieces.                                                  | (38.00) |
| 3154 | A third group of 15 different Halfpennies averaging Extremely Fine.                                 | (38.00) |
| 3155 | Fourth group of 15 Halfpennies, all different, averaging Extremely Fine.                            | (38.00) |
| 3156 | Buntown Halfpence pieces, a fifth group averaging Extremely Fine. 15 Pieces, all different.         | (38.00) |
| 3157 | Buntown Halfpence pieces. 15 Different specimens. Average Very Fine.                                | (35.00) |
| 3158 | Another group averaging Very Fine. 15 Pieces. All different.                                        | (35.00) |
| 3159 | Buntown Halfpennies, 15 different pieces. Very Fine on the whole.                                   | (35.00) |
| 3160 | Another group of 15 different Halfpennies averaging Very Fine.                                      | (30.00) |
| 3161 | A lot of Buntown Halfpence pieces in Fine. 20 in all.                                               | (25.00) |
| 3162 | Buntown Halfpennies, 15 different pieces, averaging Fine.                                           | (25.00) |
| 3163 | Buntown Halfpennies, 15 different pieces, averaging Very Fine.                                      | (30.00) |
| 3164 | Buntown Halfpennies, 20 pieces, averaging Very Good.                                                | (15.00) |
| 3165 | Buntown Halfpennies, 40 pieces, Poor to Very Good.                                                  | (35.00) |
| 3166 | Buntown Halfpennies, 40 pieces, averaging Good or better.                                           | (35.00) |
| 3167 | Buntown Farthings, 12 different pieces. A choice Uncirculated lot.                                  | (20.00) |
| 3168 | A group of 15 different Buntown Farthings, averaging Very Fine.                                     | (15.00) |
| 3169 | 12 Buntown Halfpennies, 15 Buntown Farthings. Average of group Good to Very Good. 27 Pieces in all. | (15.00) |

#### GAMBLING TOKENS OR SPIELMARKES

|      |                                                                                                       |         |
|------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| 3170 | Gambling Tokens or Spielmarkes. 36 Pieces, Half-Dime size. Extremely Fine.                            | (15.00) |
| 3171 | Gambling Tokens or Spielmarkes. 15 Pieces of mixed sizes. Extremely Fine.                             | (10.00) |
| 3172 | Gambling Tokens or Spielmarkes. 36 Pieces in Extremely Fine. Dime sized and larger.                   | (12.00) |
| 3173 | Gambling Tokens or Spielmarkes. A group of 12 pieces in mixed sizes. Extremely Fine and Uncirculated. | (20.00) |
| 3174 | Gambling Tokens or Spielmarkes. \$5.00 and \$10.00 Sizes. 22 Pieces in Extremely Fine.                | (15.00) |
| 3175 | Gambling Tokens or Spielmarkes. \$20.00 Size. Extremely Fine. 8 Pieces in all.                        | (10.00) |

END OF SALE — THANK YOU



PRICES REALIZED

*The Charles W. Neumoyer*

COLLECTION OF

United States, Foreign,

Gold, Silver & Copper Coins

Paper Money

Sale held in conjunction with the

METROPOLITAN NEW YORK NUMISMATIC CONVENTION

CATALOGUED AND SOLD BY

*Stack's*

123 West 57th Street

New York 19, N. Y.

| LOT# | PRICE | LOT# | PRICE | LOT# | PRICE | LOT# | PRICE |
|------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|
| 1    | 16.00 | 39   | 13.00 | 77   | 15.00 | 115  | 20.00 |
| 2    | 16.50 | 40   | 24.00 | 78   | 12.00 | 116  | 18.50 |
| 3    | 16.00 | 41   | 23.00 | 79   | 10.50 | 117  | 9.00  |
| 4    | 13.00 | 42   | 23.00 | 80   | 10.50 | 118  | 20.00 |
| 5    | 13.50 | 43   | 23.00 | 81   | 11.50 | 119  | 13.00 |
| 6    | 12.00 | 44   | 18.00 | 82   | 11.00 | 120  | 13.50 |
| 7    | 22.50 | 45   | 20.00 | 83   | 12.50 | 121  | 12.00 |
| 8    | 22.00 | 46   | 5.00  | 84   | 13.00 | 122  | 21.00 |
| 9    | 13.00 | 47   | 6.50  | 85   | 18.50 | 123  | 22.00 |
| 10   | 21.00 | 48   | 11.00 | 86   | 6.50  | 124  | 12.00 |
| 11   | 17.00 | 49   | 7.50  | 87   | 40.00 | 125  | 10.00 |
| 12   | 4.00  | 50   | 4.00  | 88   | 22.50 | 126  | 13.00 |
| 13   | 23.00 | 51   | 13.00 | 89   | 14.50 | 127  | 20.00 |
| 14   | 12.00 | 52   | 6.00  | 90   | 10.00 | 128  | 9.00  |
| 15   | 21.00 | 53   | 18.50 | 91   | 10.00 | 129  | 20.00 |
| 16   | 31.00 | 54   | 4.00  | 92   | 45.00 | 130  | 22.00 |
| 17   | 20.00 | 55   | 7.50  | 93   | 10.00 | 131  | 22.00 |
| 18   | 16.00 | 56   | 7.50  | 94   | 16.00 | 132  | 30.00 |
| 19   | 22.50 | 57   | 8.00  | 95   | 6.00  | 133  | 25.00 |
| 20   | 12.50 | 58   | 16.00 | 96   | 8.50  | 134  | 18.00 |
| 21   | 12.50 | 59   | 12.50 | 97   | 32.50 | 135  | 18.00 |
| 22   | 11.50 | 60   | 13.00 | 98   | 12.50 | 136  | 12.50 |
| 23   | 11.00 | 61   | 29.00 | 99   | 13.50 | 137  | 12.00 |
| 24   | 16.00 | 62   | 13.00 | 100  | 30.00 | 138  | 3.50  |
| 25   | 12.00 | 63   | 36.00 | 101  | 39.00 | 139  | 22.50 |
| 26   | 9.00  | 64   | 11.50 | 102  | 22.50 | 140  | 14.00 |
| 27   | 6.50  | 65   | 14.50 | 103  | 30.00 | 141  | 6.00  |
| 28   | 5.50  | 66   | 57.50 | 104  | 28.00 | 142  | 8.00  |
| 29   | 6.50  | 67   | 29.00 | 105  | 50.00 | 143  | 10.00 |
| 30   | 6.50  | 68   | 11.50 | 106  | 50.00 | 144  | 7.50  |
| 31   | 8.50  | 69   | 38.00 | 107  | 55.00 | 145  | 14.00 |
| 32   | 13.00 | 70   | 45.00 | 108  | 11.00 | 146  | 13.00 |
| 33   | 13.00 | 71   | 30.00 | 109  | 22.00 | 147  | 13.00 |
| 34   | 22.50 | 72   | 13.00 | 110  | 25.00 | 148  | 24.00 |
| 35   | 11.50 | 73   | 50.00 | 111  | 11.00 | 149  | 19.00 |
| 36   | 3.50  | 74   | 47.00 | 112  | 22.00 | 150  | 14.00 |
| 37   | 9.00  | 75   | 36.00 | 113  | 26.00 | 151  | 19.00 |

## Copper Coinage of Vermont

Of the several states which issued copper coins during the 1780s, the earliest was Vermont, an independent area which was not formally a state until its admittance to the Union in 1791. Reuben Harmon, Jr., of Rupert, Bennington County, was granted the right to coin coppers in 1785.

Years later Julian Harmon, a grandson of Reuben Harmon, Jr., described the coining operation:

The mint house stood on Pawlet River, three rods from [Reuben Harmon, Jr.'s] house, a story and a half house, not painted, a furnace in one end for melting copper and rolling the bars, and in the other [west] end machinery for stamping, and in the center that for cutting. The stamping was done by means of an iron screw attached to heavy timbers above and moved by hand through the aid of ropes. Sixty per minute could be stamped, although 30 per minute was the usual number. William Buel assisted in striking the coins. Three persons were required for the purpose, one to place the copper, and two to swing the stamp. At first, the coins passed two for a penny, then four, then eight, when it ceased to pay expenses. The British imported so many of the "Bungtown coppers," which were of a much lighter color.

The first coins issued by Harmon had a scenic motif and portrayed, on the obverse, a typical Vermont rocky mountain ridge forested with pine trees. To the right a sun peeping over the ridge appeared. Surrounding was the legend VERMONTIS RES PUBLICA and the date 1785. The Latinization of "Vermont Republic" was never standardized, so we see such variations as VERMONTIS, VERMON, and the cumbersome VERMONTENSIVM. The reverse of the issues depicted an all-seeing eye from which emanated 13 short rays with a star above each, and 13 long rays. The legend STELLA QUARTA DECIMA ("The 14th Star," a reference to Vermont's ambition to become the 14th state) surrounded.

In 1786 it was decided that the Vermont coppers, being of a unique design not familiar to the citizens of Vermont or surrounding states, did not circulate as well as they would have if the design had been a more standard motif. Accordingly, new obverses and reverses were adopted. One style, known today as the "Baby Head," depicted a boyish bust facing right. The reverse of this, and other issues of 1786 and later years, depicted the seated figure of a woman modelled after the familiar Britannia used on contemporary British issues.

It was evidently felt that the design could be improved further, so later in 1786 a new style, featuring the bust of King George II facing to the left, copied from contemporary British halfpennies, was introduced. Later, in 1787, still another style was adopted; a motif with the bust of King George III facing to the right. The Vermont inscriptions were retained.

The initial coining franchise was granted to Harmon for a period of two years. On October 24, 1786, the privilege was extended. In 1787 Harmon entered into a partnership with a number of other individuals involved in coinage. An ownership interest and connection was formed between the Vermont enterprise and Machin's Mills, a private mint located on the shores of Orange Lake near Newburgh,

New York.

Machin's Mills was established by an agreement dated April 18, 1787, which united the interests of Samuel Atlee, James F. Atlee, David Brooks, James Grier, and James Giles, all of New York City, with Thomas Machin of Ulster County, New York.

Thomas Machin, of English birth, served as an officer with the British forces prior to the Revolution. During the war he entered the American army as an engineer. In 1777 he was employed by Congress to erect fortifications along the Hudson River and to stretch a chain across the river at West Point to prevent the passage of British ships beyond that point. Following the war Machin located near Newburgh, where he erected buildings subsequently used for the coinage venture.

Pioneer collector Charles I. Bushnell described the coining facility in a letter to Sylvester S. Crosby:

The mint house at Newburgh, Ulster County, New York, was situated on the east side of Machin's Lake or Pond, about one eighth of a mile distant from the pond. The building was erected in 1784 by Thomas Machin, and was still standing in 1792, at which time the rollers, press, and cutting machine were taken out. The coins were struck by means of a large bar loaded at each end with a 500-pound ball with ropes attached.

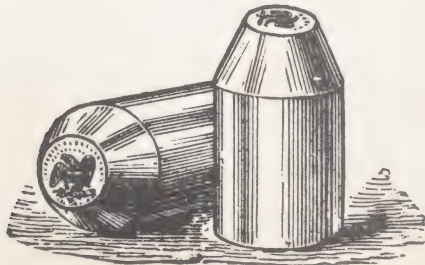
Two men were required on each side, making four in all to strike the pieces, besides the man to set the planchets. The metal of which the coins were struck was composed of old brass cannons and mortars, the zinc from the copper being extracted by smelting in a furnace. About 60 of the coins were struck a minute. The sloop *Newburgh* (Capt. Isaac Belknap) carried for a number of years the coining press as part ballast. The coins were made by James F. Atlee. Many of them bore on the obverse GEORGIUS III, and on the reverse INDE ET LIB. Others bore the figure of a plough on one side. The mint ceased operations in the year 1791.

Numismatists today believe that Machin's Mills coined a wide variety of coppers, probably anything that they thought could be circulated for profit. Included were pieces bearing legends relating to Vermont, Connecticut and other authorities, as well as many different counterfeits of contemporary British halfpennies.

The business of Machin's Mills was conducted with secrecy. A guard with a hideous mask was employed to frighten away the curious. An early historian noted that "operations there, as they were conducted in secret, were looked upon at that time with suspicion, as illegal and wrong."

Today the issues of Machin's Mills, including most of the later Vermont coins, are among the most interesting of all state coinage of the period. The interlocking of dies, the often crude workmanship, the muling or combination of dies with irrelevant obverses and reverses, and other characteristics have made the coins fascinating objects for research and study.

The following copper coins of Vermont from the Garrett Collection are attributed to Ryder-Richardson numbers as first propounded by Hillier C. Ryder and subsequently revised by John M. Richardson.



Steel dies used in coinage.

Exceedingly Rare  
Conway & Co. Five Dollar Gold



(See Color Photo)



550 Undated (1861) \$5 by J. J. Conway & Co. Struck in gold. With large numeral 5. 140.8 grains. **Choice Extremely Fine-45.** Well struck and sharp in all details. Trivial planchet flaw on the rim above the last letter of PIKES, with the same flaw visible on the other side under N of BANKERS. A superb piece. We seriously doubt whether a finer one exists among those few known today. Don Taxay was able to locate only three examples, one of which is in the Smithsonian Institution. As the present piece did not figure in his research, it con-

stitutes a fourth.

In August 1861 the banking firm of J. J. Conway, Georgia Gulch, Colorado, produced several varieties of \$2.50, \$5, and \$10 pieces bearing their imprint. Apparently the coinage was continued for only a short time. Little is known concerning the background or operations of the company.

The present piece represents one of the greatest opportunities offered by the Garrett Collection sale.

*From B. Max Mehl, February 20, 1925; earlier from Waldo Newcomer; exhibited at the American Numismatic Society in 1914.*

year, as it must have been struck and released to circulation in time for it to be obtained by Anna by March 15, 1851. The coin was new when obtained.

One piece of information I wish I did have was the location of W.H.W.'s home. The message reproduced above is written on the back of a printed church notice, announcing a meeting of the Board of Managers of the (unidentified) Church on the following Tuesday in the Vestry Room. I cannot recall ever having seen a pre-printed notice giving less real information than this. No date, year, location, or name of church is given. The same W.H.W., however, has signed the notice as Secretary.

A bit of sleuthing is now in order. We have to assume that the city we are looking for is a large, east coast one. Why? Well, it would have to be a large one to merit a shipment of new large cents so early in the year. For the same reasons, it would have to be a city close to Philadelphia. Based on this limited information, I would conjecture that W.H.W.'s home was in Philadelphia or New York. To further this research, I have checked microfilmed city directories for Philadelphia and New York for the years 1850-1855, looking up churches and trying to find if any had a secretary with the initials W.H.W. Unfortunately, this is akin to looking for a needle in a haystack, and it is also very hard on the eyes, so as yet I have not solved this mystery.

Thanks to the descendants of W.H.W. who elected to maintain these coins and the paper together for over 100 years, we large cent enthusiasts now know the following information:

- (1) that 1851 N-13 was one of the first dies used in 1851, as coins of this variety were released to circulation prior to March 15, 1851;
- (2) that 9 years of city circulation turned an UNC 1842 N-5 to a VF-30; and
- (3) that, at least for 1851, new large cents were released to circulation as a general rule fairly in the year.

If it was not for these two coins being kept together with their documentation, this information would still be unknown. It is just a spot of luck that these coins were preserved not only by the family, but by the coin dealer who bought them (he did not remember when he got them or from whom, otherwise I might have been able to better track the city of origin) and did not separate them, put them in 2 x 2's, and sell them off individually. I plan to keep them together, and should I decide to sell them, will sell only to another collector who also intends to keep them together. A pedigree such as this, while not a famous numismatic name, is a unique, special, and personal pedigree, perhaps unprecedented in numismatics.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### HALFPENNY EAR MARKS

Gary A. Trudgen

The copper halfpenny was the most common coin used for small transactions in early America. Interestingly, I happened upon another use of the halfpenny while researching the original late Eighteenth Century records of a small Vermont town. I don't know how widespread this practice was, but the inhabitants of this town identified their livestock (sheep, cattle, etc.) with unique ear

marks. This practice evidently preceded the use of the branding iron, where an identifying mark is burnt into the animal's hide.

Contained within the town records for the year 1795 is a list of each inhabitant and the ear marks that he used to identify his livestock. In many cases, crude drawings were included to illustrate the markings. The ear marks were placed at different locations on the animal's ears to form a unique combination. The following methods of marking the ears were used: a full crop, a half crop, a square crop, a hole, a slit, two side-by-side slits, a swallow tail or fork (V cut), and a halfpenny attached to the ear. Out of the forty-six listed inhabitants, eight used halfpennies or a combination of marks that included a halfpenny, to identify their animals

For example, Nathan Griswald used a halfpenny on the front side of the right ear of his livestock, while Gedion Spencer placed his halfpenny on the backside of the right ear. Durand Robert placed a halfpenny on the upper front side of the right ear and a square crop at the end of the left ear. Stephen Spencer placed his halfpenny on the underside of the right ear and a swallow fork at the point of the left ear. John W. Green outdid them all by using two halfpennies. He placed a halfpenny on the upper side and the other halfpenny on the underside of the right ear and also cut a slit in the same ear. It is unknown how the halfpennies were attached to the ear. Maybe they were placed just under the skin.

The town records always stated that a halfpenny was used. However, it is probably safe to assume that any copper coin of halfpenny size was used. This would include genuine regal halfpence, counterfeit halfpence struck in England or America, any of the various state copper issues, and even the large cent minted in the newly established federal mint in Philadelphia. Who knows, perhaps your prized rare early American copper once resided in the ear of a cow!

\* \* \* \* \*

#### THE 1993 BICENTENNIAL OF FEDERAL COPPER PRODUCTION: A VISIONARY SCHEME

Ray Rouse

With the bicentennial of U.S. copper coin production due in 1993, the time to develop one or more educational projects to interest the general public in early copper coins would appear to be upon us. One such project is suggested by the enthusiasm generated at each year's EAC meeting when Mike Packard counterstamps beat-up large cents for convention attendees. Now, I am not so interested in counterstamping more beat-up large cents (it's too close a description of much of my material) as in the enthusiasm of people watching Mike or taking part in the counterstamping. Clearly, the production of a piece of copper "sculpture" is of both educational value and interest. The enthusiasm is infectious, and we need to communicate this to the public.

My proposal is to develop the ability to replicate the production of early American copper coins in a coin show environment. The idea is not simply to sell copper tokens that look like large cents, but to have a show-and-tell with participation by the audience. For example, a young attendee at an ANA convention would select a blank planchet from a barrel full, walk over to a screw press, place the planchet on the die, and with assistance turn the press to make an impression on the planchet, remove the token from the press, take it to the edging

## THE QUESTION BOX

From various correspondents in different sections come these questions.

### The Ducat—Where and When First Issued

The silver pieces issued in Apulia in 1140 by Roger II of Sicily in his own name and that of his son Roger III, Duke of Apulia, had the legend R. DX. AP. for **Roger Duke of Apulia**, and were officially known as **ducats**, or "coins of the duchy." These were the earliest "ducats." This term was also applied to the gold coin, 118 grains, dated 1558, of Mary I, of Scotland, struck during her union with the Dauphin of France. Ducats were also struck for various Continental States.

### Foreign Dollars Struck Before 1794

**Has any foreign nation struck coins called dollars, before the United States struck them in 1794?**

There are silver coins of James VI. of Scotland (1567-1603) known as sword-dollars. These are dated from 1567 to 1571 inclusive. Obverse, name and title and the crowned arms of Scotland between I. R., both crowned; reverse, a sword erect, having a hand on the left of the sword pointing to the value X X X on the right side, the date below. Legend: PRO. ME. SI. MEREOR. IN. ME. (For me; if I deserve it, against me.)

These were current for Thirty Shillings Scots (Thirty pence English). The double mark issued from 1578 to 1580, is also known as the thistle-dollar. The reverse of this consists of an uncrowned thistle between I. R., the date, and legend: NEMO. ME. IMPVNE. LACESSET. (No one shall hurt me with impunity.)

Charles II. struck for Scotland coins known as dollars, dated 1676, 1679 and 1680 to 1682. These have his bust on obverse, and the shields of Scotland, England, France and Ireland crowned in form of a cross, a thistle in each quarter, and two C's interlinked in center.

### What Is a "Bungtown Copper?"

This term is mostly given to imitation regal half-pennies of George III. It has been claimed they were made at a place called Bungtown, now Barneysville, in Swansea, Mass. Any kind of copper of crude workmanship, struck without proper authority, that circulated in the United States or Canada might be called a "bungtown." Tokens with a bust and legend such as "**George rules**," with a harp, and "Britains Isles" on reverse, are sometimes called Pennsylvania bungtowns. We are pleased to say, for the credit of Pennsylvania, that this is not correct. They are British tokens and listed as such by Atkins in his work on that series.

### The Gold Stella—Is It a Regular Coin?

The Stella or four dollar piece was struck in 1879 as a pattern coin for a new denomination, but was not adopted. Only a few specimens were struck.

...was looking with her eyes full of tears at the wrong from them. While he was looking in rapine at her singing, she would break off in the middle of a verse to ask him what she should cook for supper, and he could never forgive her having once interrupted him, while she was listening with deep emotion to his very best sermon, to tell him not to put on his left stocking the next morning till she had mended it.

...Look upon a little after 6 o'clock in the morning, between the time of the withdrawal of the watch and its usual hour of business. We have not lately seen a man undressed the use of his legs better than the thief of whom we have spoken, excepting only the gentleman who caught him.—U. S. Gazette.

The Bangtown Chronicle states that old Deacon Codger, the well known Almanack-maker of Bangtown, died very suddenly on Friday, while engaged in circulating an eclipse. He was son of the great Codger, who had his long tailed coat shot into a short jacket by a cannon ball at Bunker Hill. Verdict of the Jury of Inquest.—Died of information in the brain.—Boston Times.

England and Ireland.—It is stated that "The arms of Great Britain and Ireland are to be changed in consequence of the severance of Ireland from the empire."

We are sorry to hear of this change in the arms. Hitherto Ireland has been a useful area to England; hereafter, we may hope, it will be left to herself.—U. S. Gazette.

Happiness.—An excellent modern writer beautifully says "the foundation of domestic happiness is faith in the virtue of woman; the foundation of political happiness is confidence in the integrity of man; the foundation of all happiness, temporal and eternal, is reliance on the goodness of God."

The Newark diamond captured by the Marquis of Queens in India and the Great diamonds of Queen Charlotte, have just been sold by the executors of Mr. Bridgman, jeweller of Ludgate Hill. The Newark diamond 357.

Men.—Philosophers have puzzled themselves how to define man, so as to distinguish him from other animals. Burke says: "Man is an animal that cooks his victuals." "Then," says Johnson, "the proverb is just, there is reason in roasting eggs." Dr. Adam Smith has met this case. "Man," says he, "is an animal that makes bargains, no other animal does this—one dog does not change a bone with another."

Bible Vendor Arrested.—The society of the Law.—The agent of a Bible Society in Marion county, Missouri, was a few days since arrested in Miller county, in that State, for peddling without license, and fined \$60. He had distributed \$70 worth, and said about \$3 to those who would not accept the bibles as a gift. The Governor remitted the fine.

An insatiable negro man, known as Quincey John, at Nashville, Tennessee, while serving spring water to his customers from a water cistern, was killed, the other day, by a snake through the heart. When a white man named Edward Saul, the victim had just purchased his freedom for \$1000. Saul is accused.

Effects of Sudden Fortune.—A Frenchman named Chamberlain, an officer in Surrey regiment Black Stairs, having received a legacy of \$15000 became so overjoyed that he and his wife took an excessive drink, and having quarrelled, the husband first killed his wife and then strangled himself.

Philos — Public Ledger  
Sept 21/1837



be following  
a series of  
city in a row

The Newark diamond captured by the Marquis of Hastings in India, and the Ararat diamonds of Queen Charlotte, have just been sold by the executors of Mr. Bridges, jeweller of Ludgate Hill. The Newark sold for £2,000, and the

**Effects of Sudden Fortune.**—A Frenchman named Chamberlain, a widower, in Surrey street, Blackfriars, having received a legacy of £1000 because he overjoyed that he and his wife took an excessive drink, and having quarrelled, the husband first killed his wife and then strangled himself.

Phil - Public Ledger  
Sept 21, 1837





Pennypurse Jan 1984

# WHAT IS A COUNTERFEIT BRITISH HALFPENCE OF AMERICAN ORIGIN? HOW DO I COLLECT THEM?

Harry J. Rescigno

Perhaps the most overlooked area of American Colonial coinage is the counterfeit British halfpence that was produced in the American colonies. Although these coins are real American Colonials, they are given but one paragraph in the yearly RED BOOK and there isn't a single picture of even one to be found anywhere between its red covers. These early coppers were the main output of "Machin's Mills".

"The Mills" was located in what is now Newburgh, New York. Failing to get a coinage contract from the New York Legislature, it proceeded to produce a vast amount of coinage, all of it illegal. By the time Machin's Mills ceased operations, it was producing all of the Vermont coinage, the majority of Connecticut coinage, probably some New Jersey coinage, and various other items. Since the main circulating coins of the colonies were the halfpennies of George II and George III, it began to produce lightweight counterfeits of these coins in large quantities.

In 1965, Robert A. Vlack, in his EARLY AMERICAN COINS, gave a fine short history of Machin's Mills and pictured some of the major types of the imitation halfpennies. Vlack expanded his work in this area in 1974 when he issued plates showing all of the 35 known varieties. Since that time, one new variety has been discovered. In 1976, SCOTT'S ENCYCLOPEDIA (edited by Don Taxay) plated many of the major varieties and attempted to update the pricing. All of these works are very helpful in collecting and studying this series.

As with most of the Colonial series, some auction catalogues are extremely helpful with research and information. For study of the imitation halfpence, the two best are "The Kensington sale" of December, 1975 by Bowers & Ruddy Galleries, which contained 20 lots offering 33 pieces of 11 die varieties; and the Kessler-Spangenberg sale of April, 1981 by NASCA, which contained an overwhelming 37 lots and 22 die varieties. These two sales have been helpful in attempting to fix a value and rarity to some of the varieties of these halfpennies.

Background information on Machin's Mills can be obtained from THE EARLY COINS OF AMERICA by S. S. Crosby (of course) and STUDIES ON MONEY IN EARLY AMERICA, 1976, edited by Eric P. Newman and Richard G. Doty. In the latter, Eric P. Newman discusses many aspects of counterfeits or "Bungtowns" and the mints that produced them. It is here we learn that perhaps Machin's Mills was not the only producer of these halfpennies.

These truly American Colonials can be found readily at coin shows and auctions, and they are an interesting chapter in the saga of the early coinage of America.

\* \* \* \* \*

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*Machin's Mills*

*Empire Topics* presents an article by Eric P. Newman, a well known author in the field of colonial American numismatics. Mr. Newman's works include the standard references for Fugio cents, Continental dollars and colonial Virginia coinage. "The Secret of the Good Samaritan Shilling", Mr. Newman's latest writing, has recently been published by the American Numismatic Society.

The present article is a request for information concerning the somewhat enigmatic Machin's Mills, a private New York state mint in the late 1780's.

A search for facts adding to the knowledge of . . .

## THE MACHIN'S MILLS MINT NEAR NEWBURGH, N. Y.

by Eric P. Newman

What occurred in the mysterious operation of the mint for the coinage of coppers created at Orange Lake, New York, about 1786? When Thomas Machin, a hero of the American Revolution, used land of Governor George Clinton of New York for a "money-making" venture it was hoped that the state of New York would approve a coining franchise for his association as had been granted to others in the neighboring states of Connecticut, Vermont, New Jersey and Massachusetts. Since that did not materialize the group turned to the unauthorized coinage of coppers. If we only knew more about what coins they made we might answer many questions about American coinage during the period before the Constitution.



Genuine and counterfeit British halfpence were circulated freely in the United States before and after the Revolution, and the profit in manufacturing a few more seemed attractive—particularly at Machin's Mills because there was no law against counterfeiting copper in New York at that time. The coins struck at Machin's Mills are as much a part of American numismatics as any other series—even though most of them were imitation British halfpence. Some are dated 1776, 1778, 1787 and 1788, dates when no genuine British halfpence were minted. There are hundreds of varieties of British halfpence dated from 1770 to 1775, and a few dated 1781, 1784 and 1785. While virtually all of these are of British or Irish origin, a few may be Machin's Mills or other American pieces. Many a collector's junk box has American pieces of this type in it, but there they remain unidentified. The Vermont, Connecticut and New Jersey pieces which are candidates for a Machin's Mills source at least are known as well as those with New York and Federal insignia. Yet which were made in Machin's Mills is unknown. It is not even known what coins are referred to in the Connecticut mint report where it is said that Maj. Eli Leavenworth had coppers made in New York (Machin's Mills) which were similar to Connecticut coinages.

For over ten years the writer has been gathering data on Machin's Mills to write up the subject and sincerely needs the cooperation of many numismatists. If the joint efforts of anyone who has any relative data were pooled substantial further progress can result. We are on the threshold of adding a new series of American coins. No fact is too obvious to restate, no prior statement exempt from challenge, no eighteenth century George III British halfpenny too unimportant to examine. What can you add to this subject?

The records of Thomas Machin are still to be located. They were used by Jephtha R. Sims in *The History of Schoharie County* in 1845 and their whereabouts are unknown. In *The History of Newburgh* by Ruttenber, and the *History of Orange County* by Eager there are comments about the mint. Hickcox was the first numismatist to comment, then Crosby (pp. 172, 190-202, 290, 319 of *Early Coins of America*) adds more data. C. Wyllis Betts first tried to identify Machin's imitation British halfpence in his pamphlet "Counterfeit Halfpence". Kurth in the February 1942 Numismatist pushes the frontier forward, then Breen in the January 1952 Numismatist described the amazing Fairfield County hoard. In the *Centennial Publication of the American Numismatic Society* the article of the undersigned entitled "A Newly Discovered Coin Solves a Vermont Numismatic Enigma", attempts to explain the relationship between the Vermont coinage and Machin's Mills imitation British halfpence.

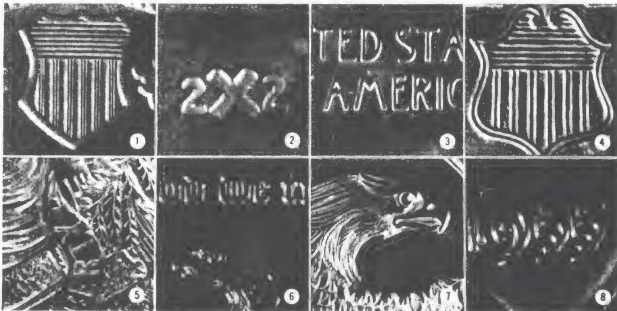
Even the term "Bungtown coppers" needs clarification. Many writers have stated that this expression refers to coppers with unofficial legends such as GREGORY III PON, GANGES III RATE, BRITAIN'S HAPPY ISLE or BONNY GIRLS. There is a great probability that Bungtown really means imitation British halfpence with standard legends rather than evasive legends, and that the coppers with evasive legends were never used in America. Has any reader ever found any evidence in letters, newspapers, diaries, hoards, or otherwise that coppers with unofficial legends ever circulated in America? Are not Machin's Mills halfpence some of the true Bungtowns?

Can you help with your ideas, your data and information as to your coins? Needles in a haystack can be found, particularly with the magnetism of numismatics.

Eric P. Newman  
6450 Cecil Avenue  
St. Louis, 5 Missouri

## COIN QUIZ

This issue's coin quiz features something different. With the aid of a close-up extension we took pictures of certain parts of familiar United States coins. See how many illustrations you can identify correctly. From the results obtained by showing the pictures to office visitors we would say that a score of three or four correct identifications is average. The best score obtained in this small survey was seven out of eight correct. #5 and #7 seem to be the most difficult. The answers appear below.



Answers to Coin Quiz: (1) Shield at the top of the reverse of the Indian cent. (2) 2x2 in the right obverse field of the 1921 Alabama commemorative half dollar. (3) Lettering on the reverse of the Lincoln cent, type 1909-1958. (4) Shield at the center of the silver three-cent piece obverse. (5) part of LIBERTY on the obverse of the trade dollar. (6) Reverse of the Morgan silver dollar. (7) Eagle found on the reverse of the trade dollar. (8) part of LIBERTY on the obverse of the trade dollar.

## ABOUT THE COVER

In its five decades of retail business, "change and progress" have been the name of the game at Edison Brothers.

New styles, new merchandise, new stores appeared year after year — and now, a "new" sales management team has evolved as the Ted Caseys, Irving Edisons, Bill Polleys, and Roy Oscars have retired.

Though many people on this sales team are new in their present positions, their names all have a familiar ring. They are Edisonians whom we knew as salespeople, assistant managers, managers and regional managers. They are typical of all Edisonians who, step by step, have climbed to the top.

Taken as a group, the average member of this sales team is 47 years old; started with EBS at age 20; spent 26.5 years with the company; and was 40 when promoted to the home office after holding nine different positions in the field. Six out of nine went to college; seven out of nine had military service. All are married and have an average of three children.

And yet, though the names have changed, the spirit of this new sales team has not. Their goal remains the same — to build staffs of sales-oriented, highly motivated, career Edisonians who will work towards personal development and maximum sales results.

The new sales management team is shown on the cover. They are from left to right — (standing) Lester Cherry, sales manager, North; Elmer Jeffries,

## The Baffling \$20 Bill

Two young customers walked into The Wild Pair Galleria, Houston, bought a pair of shoes and paid for it with a new-looking \$20 bill.

The bill worried manager Wade Getz. It was dated 1934. Comparing it to another \$20 bill, he found it was different in design and did not have the motto "In God We Trust" on the back. He called the police.

The police were baffled. The counterfeiters had managed to get the thread in the paper, something that had never been done before. However, they were sure it was counterfeit because of the design and the absence of the motto. They called in the Secret Service.

Everything turned out all right. Because of special circumstances the government had authorized that design in 1934, but has since discontinued it. Everybody was happy. The two young customers, who turned out to be call girls, were happy that they had not been ripped off; manager Getz was happy that he had not lost a sale; and VP Jack Porter of EDP was glad he did not have to program the case through his computers in St. Louis.

general sales manager; John Mathews, director, sales personnel and training; (seated) Bill Langston, sales manager, South; Stu Lochead, director, store operations costs; John Codespoti, sales manager, East; Andy Newman, director, operations and administration; and Jack Hulsey, director, store operations.

## EBS and the New Math

Edison Brothers started January 1, 1975 with 1,079 stores, opened 20 new units during the first six months of the year, and had 1,077 on June 30.

That's the "new math" for you, or, if you wish, "progress." During that period we closed 22 old units in deteriorating neighborhoods.

However, don't despair. "Progress" won't put us out of business. "We are adding more units to our new store plans for the balance of 1975," Julian and Bernard Edison stated in their financial report dated August 5. "For the full year we plan to open over 100 units and close about 40. We are continuing our aggressive program for future growth."

So, that should give EBS around 1,140 stores at the end of the year, give or take a few depending on weather, delays, etc.

## Condolences

With sorrow we announce the death of Franklin Stanley of Los Angeles after a prolonged illness. He had managed EBS stores in Lakewood, Compton, and Los Angeles. His last assignment was manager of Chandlers Torrance.

It was a sad day in Little Rock when Tom Riddigill was buried in his home town of Washington, Arkansas. Tom, who had retired from Edison Brothers 10 years ago, had been in poor health. He was active at EBS for over 30 years and had managed many EBS stores, mostly in the South.

Everybody's happy in this photo from Leeds Ala Moana, Hawaii — Steve Asato (center) got a sales award, former floor manager Ron Rolland got a promotion to manager (Leeds Kahala Mall) and Cecilia Yamaguchi stepped up from Ala Moana AM to floor manager.



Guess who came to the luncheon honoring Sam Guzick, manager of Chandlers Northland, Detroit upon his retirement from EBS after 42 years of distinguished EBS service? They were (from left) retired VP Art Elias and his wife, general sales manager (now retired) Bill Polley, (Mrs. and mgr. Guzick). Not shown, northern division sales manager Les Cherry, RM Joe Brown and Guzick's many friends in the region.

ERIC P. NEWMAN

PERSONAL

EDISONIAN

sept. 1975

edison brothers shoe store, inc.

## Our New Sales Management Team...



published in  
Penny-wise  
11/1988

JAMES ATLEE'S HALFPENCE

Gary A. Trudgen

Under the Articles of Confederation, adopted on March 1, 1781, each state had the right to strike its own coinage; accordingly, the states of Connecticut, New Jersey, and Massachusetts authorized their own coinage. The Republic of Vermont, a separate political entity at the time, also issued their own copper coins. Within New York State at least three unauthorized mints operated.

One of the most prolific die engravers, who produced dies during the state coinage era, was James F. Atlee. Initially, in 1786, he worked in New York City cutting dies for an unauthorized mint. This mint may have been located at Samuel Atlee's brewery along the East River. Late in 1786, after New Jersey had authorized its own copper coinage, he was hired as a die sinker for the Rahway, New Jersey Mint. When this mint began to experience financial difficulties in the spring of 1787, he quit their operation and returned briefly to New York City, where he cut a few dies for another unauthorized mint operated by Ephraim Brasher and John Bailey. Before leaving the New Jersey mint at Rahway, Atlee had joined in partnership with Thomas Machin and four others to establish a mint at the mills of Machin, located near Newburgh, New York. When this mint began operation in July of that year, he moved to Newburgh and engraved dies for his firm and Reuben Harmon's Rupert, Vermont coinage firm. He continued at Machin's Mills until the company ceased operation in late 1789<sup>(1)</sup>.

In colonial American and the early United States, the most actively circulated coin was the British halfpenny. It was used in large quantities by the common man to conduct small transactions. Copper coins were not legal tender in the Eighteenth century. Therefore, the laws with respect to copper coins were lenient, and violations were often overlooked by the authorities. As a result, both George II and George III halfpence were heavily counterfeited. The counterfeiter normally made a profit by not putting the standard full weight of copper into his halfpence. While most of the counterfeiting was done in England, a small amount was also done in America during the state coinage era. Large quantities of the halfpence counterfeited in England were imported and circulated in America. Most of the counterfeit halfpence known to be struck in America can be traced to James Atlee through punch linkage with other state coppers.

C. Willys Betts was the first to formally recognize that counterfeit halfpence had been struck in America. In a landmark address before the American Numismatic and Archaeological Society (the forerunner of the present-day ANS) in 1886, he presented his evidence. At the request of the society his address, along with exquisite line drawings of relevant halfpence, was printed. It was titled "Counterfeit Half Pence Current in the American Colonies and Their Issue from the Mints of Connecticut and Vermont".<sup>(2)</sup> The first attempt to classify the American-made counterfeit halfpence came in 1964 when Robert Vlack issued photo plates titled "American 'Tory' Halfpence Struck at Machin's Mills, New York." A decade later he reissued a more complete version of the photo plates. This time he judiciously dropped the reference to Machin's Mills by re-titling the plates "Early English Counterfeit Halfpence Struck in America." Also, at

the suggestion of Eric Newman, the attribution scheme was revised. Primarily, the reverse die designation was changed to include the last two digits of the halfpence date. This attribution system allows easy recognition of the date of a particular variety, which is well-suited for the series because of the wide range of dates. Most recently, the author demonstrated that the vast majority of the American-made counterfeit halfpence, as cataloged by Robert Vlack, are linked to James Atlee.<sup>(5)</sup> There are three distinct groups that are die and punch linked together. Each of these three groups are further tied to separate state coinage operations.

Currently, the numismatic community commonly refers to the American-made counterfeit halfpence as Machin's Mills halfpence. For example, on page 42 of the Red Book, the bible of United States coinage, there is a one-paragraph description of these halfpence titled "Machin's Mills Coinage." This is a result of the title Robert Vlack used for his original set of photo plates. However, this author's research has shown that two of the three distinct groups of American-made counterfeit halfpence were not struck at Machin's Mills. The common denominator of the series is the die engraver, James Atlee, not the mint site. Thus, a more accurate and appropriate title would be Atlee's Halfpence.

The state coppers were struck during a unique period in American history, and they have several interesting characteristics that attract many who love old coppers. For example, the state coppers were manufactured under relatively primitive and in some cases mysterious conditions. Die varieties are normally easily recognizable because most dies were individually made. Several different die engravers were at work, resulting in interesting style differences. The central devices on some of the coppers are delightfully original, and the legends often proclaim a message of the times. Several interesting people, including some who fought for our independence, were responsible for the state coinages. The state coinages were struck in fairly large quantities so that they are readily obtainable, however, the formation of a nice collection is difficult and time consuming.

The Atlee Halfpence series is a part of the state coinages. It offers the same interesting characteristics and collecting challenges as the other series of coppers included within the state coinages. However, the Atlee Halfpence series is not as widely collected as the other groups of state coppers. The reason for this is that until recently the series has not been seriously studied and written about. In many respects the Atlee Halfpence series is comparable to the challenging Vermont series. They both contain approximately the same number of die varieties;<sup>(4)</sup> they both are difficult to find in high grade; they both have several rare varieties that are difficult to obtain; and they both claim some of the same coins because of muled dies.

#### Group 1

Chronologically the first group of Atlee Halfpence was struck in 1786 while James Atlee was in New York City. There are thirteen die varieties in this group.<sup>(5)</sup> Group 1 can be divided into two subgroups. A small subgroup, consisting of die varieties 2-71A and 9-76B, were made with the same letter punches that James Atlee used to engrave dies for his mailed bust right Connecticut coppers.<sup>(6)</sup> The second subgroup consists of the remainder of the

Group 1 die varieties. The dies of this large subgroup were made from a slightly different group of letter punches. However, some of the punches are the same as those used for the small subgroup. Significantly, many of the letter punches used to engrave the dies for Group 1 are also found used on some of the CONSTELLATIO NOVA coppers and Walter Mould's infamous IMMUNE COLUMBIA die. (7) Walter Mould had worked at George Wyon's mint in Birmingham, England before moving to America in 1785. When he came to America, he brought along a few pattern dies and some letter and number punches. The extent of the connection between Atlee and Mould is not known. Were they business partners, or did Atlee simply purchase the punches from Mould? The die work on the central devices of the Group 1 halfpence is definitely that of James Atlee. Walter Mould's die engraving style was not very accomplished, as shown by the dies he engraved at Morristown, New Jersey while fulfilling his share of the New Jersey coinage grant. His central devices have an outlined appearance. (8)

All of the die varieties included in Group 1 were antedated to legitimate regal George III halfpence dates except for two varieties. Die varieties 6-76A and 9-76B are dated 1776. Regal George III halfpence were struck at the Royal Mint in London from 1770 through 1775. As already noted, the Group 1 halfpence were struck in 1786, which was the 10th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. James Atlee probably backdated these two halfpence to 1776 in commemoration of this event. Variety 9-76B is very rare with seven specimens known to be extant. However, variety 6-76A is common enough so that anyone desiring an American-made coin bearing the date of the founding of our nation can obtain one.



Plate I: V.6-76A. Dated in the Year of the Founding of Our Nation

There are a few other die varieties contained within Group 1 that are especially interesting. For example, variety 2-71A is an important copper. It is punch and style linked to both the halfpence in the large subgroup of Group 1 and Atlee's 1786 Connecticut coppers. Thus, it is the coin that ties James Atlee to the large subgroup and Walter Mould. In addition, the obverse central device punch used on this variety was later used at Machin's Mills to sink dies for the Vermont standard bust right varieties.



Plate II: V.2-71A. 1771 Atlee Halfpenny Variety Linking  
James Atlee and Walter Mould.

Obverse 7 is unusual because the legend is spelled GEORGIUS instead of the standard GEORGIVS. Atlee substituted the letter U for the letter V. Originally V and U were the same letter and used indiscriminately. However, during the Eighteenth century, the letter V was normally used first within a word and the letter U thereafter. Obverse 7 is found combined with reverse dies 72B and 74A.



Plate III: V.7-74A. 1774 Atlee Halfpenny with Obverse Legend Misspelled.

Finally, very rare die variety 24-72C is intriguing. It was struck from an obverse die that had been lapped to remove most of the legend. Very little of the obverse legend remains, but enough is present to see that it had been the standard halfpence legend. The reverse die is also curious. It was so heavily rusted at the time of striking that the last two digits of the date are almost illegible.

Some general observations concerning the Group 1 Atlee Halfpence are that several of the central devices are cut too deeply into the dies resulting in weak central strikes. The British Union in Britannia's shield is always cut deeply into the reverse dies and therefore seldom shows. The effigy's hair on

the obverse dies runs in broad parallel curved lines with little evidence of ringlets.

### Group 2

The second group of Atlee Halfpence was struck in 1787 during the brief period when James Atlee returned to New York City following his employment at the Rahway, New Jersey Mint. There are four die varieties in this group.<sup>(9)</sup> All of the dies in Group 2 were sunk with the same letter and number punches. The most exciting distinction about this group of halfpence is that the same letter and number punches were also used to engrave the dies that were used to strike the famous BRASHER DOUBLOON! Therefore, the Group 2 halfpence are linked to the unauthorized mint of Ephraim Brasher and John Bailey. I believe



Plate IV: 1787 Atlee Halfpenny V.17-87A, Punch-Linked to the Brasher Doubloon

that these halfpence were jointly produced by James Atlee and John Bailey while Atlee was waiting for Machin's Mills to become operational. The letter and number punches are Bailey's, but the engraving style of the central devices is that of James Atlee.

One of the die varieties in Group 2 was backdated, while the remaining three varieties were dated in the year of their manufacture. Atlee Halfpence variety 1-47A has the distinction of being the only George II halfpence in the entire series. It is dated 1747, a year in which regal halfpence were minted



Plate V: "1747" Atlee Halfpenny V.1-47A, the only George II Variety

in London. The remaining three varieties were struck from the same obverse die and three separate reverse dies. Of these varieties, 17-87E is very rare with four specimens known to be extant. Evidently reverse die 87E broke very early in its usage resulting in the scarcity of this variety. All extant specimens of this variety show a very heavy break bisecting the die. Another interesting aspect of die 87E is that, of all the dies in Group 2, it shows some evidence that John Bailey assisted in engraving the central device of this die. John Bailey had a unique way of engraving the human elbow. His engraved elbows are elongated with an unnatural appearance as though something is hung or wrapped around them. (10) Reverse die 87E shows this style. One last note of interest is that obverse die 17 was lightly lapped before its final combination with reverse 87B. This weakened the legend and plates of the shoulder armor.

Some general observations concerning the Group 2 Atlee Halfpence are that the obverse effigy's hair is fine and layered with a few ringlets. The ribbons of the bow are split, the lips are pursed, and the eye is almond-shaped. The last two style characteristics are also found on the NOVA EBORACS and the Group 3 Atlee Halfpence struck at Machin's Mills.

#### Group 3

The third distinct group of Atlee Halfpence was struck at Machin's Mills in the second half of 1787 and into 1788. There are fourteen die varieties in this group. (11) These varieties are die and punch linked to Connecticut and Vermont coppers also struck at Machin's Mills. Within Group 3 there are four mules, or illogical die combinations, which combine halfpence dies with Vermont and Connecticut dies. There are three different dates used in Group 3. The dies bearing the dates 1787 and 1788 were engraved in the year of their date, while the three varieties bearing the date 1778 were very likely struck in 1788. Of the three groups of Atlee Halfpence, Group 3 is the most varied reflecting the turmoil that existed within the state coinages during this period.

There are several interesting varieties in Group 3 with the four mule varieties in the forefront. Of the mules, variety VT-87C or Ryder 13, which is known as the "Vermont Britannia" copper, is the most popular. A Vermont obverse die was combined with a well-worn halfpence reverse die. Large quantities were struck of this combination making it the most common variety of the entire Atlee Halfpence series. Variety 13-88CT is another of the mules where, in this case, a halfpence obverse die was combined with a 1788 Connecticut reverse die (Miller D). This mule is not nearly as common as the "Vermont Britannia," but exists in large enough quantities to make it a collectable variety. It is usually found on highly defective planchets. The remaining two mules, 13-87CT and 13-88VTA, are very rare. Variety 13-87CT combines a halfpence obverse die with a reverse die from a 1787 dated Connecticut copper (Miller G.2). The same halfpence obverse die is used again, this time in combination with a Vermont reverse die to form variety 13-88VTA. The Vermont die is known as Bressett L, and the mule has been termed Ryder 40 within the Vermont series.

Within the Atlee Halfpence series, reverse die 87C has the distinction of having the greatest longevity. It was combined with six obverse dies (18, 19, 20, 21, 23, and VT) before it was discarded because of serious die failure. Of these six combinations, Varieties 18-87C, 19-87C, and VT-87C ("Vermont Bri-

tannia") are fairly common today. The other three varieties, 20-87C, 21-87C, and 23-87C, are very rare.



Plate VI: 1787 Atlee Halfpenny V.19-87C, the Longest-Lived Reverse Die.

Variety 21-87D is an interesting coin because it is found in two sub-varieties. The first sub-variety exists when the coin is found on a wide planchet with a very weak periphery. Apparently a group of planchets were improperly annealed and were too soft when struck. Since collars were not used with the dies, the soft copper blank radially expanded more than usual during striking, resulting in this 'spread planchet' sub-variety. Robert Vlack labeled this sub-variety as 21-I-87D-I. The other sub-variety of V.21-87D is found

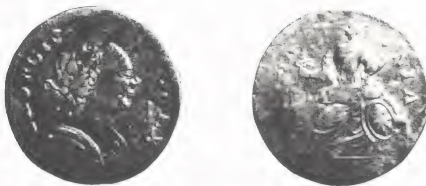


Plate VII: 1787 Atlee Halfpenny V.21-I-87D-I, the 'Spread Planchet' Strike

on a normal-sized planchet with full detail along the periphery. This sub-variety is known as 21-II-87D-II and was struck with properly annealed planchets. Although not listed in Robert Vlack's photo plates, a few spread planchet specimens of variety 18-87C also exist.



Plate VIII: 1787 Atlee Halfpenny V.21-II-87D-II, the Normal Strike

Curiously two reverse dies are dated 1778. These dies are combined with three obverse dies to create varieties 11-78A, 12-78B, and 13-78B. Since all of the other dies in Group 3 are dated in the year of their manufacture and 1778 was not a year when regal halfpence were struck, there must have been a specific reason for antedating these two dies. Also, the existence of two dies with this date argues against a simple die engraving error. I believe that Thomas Machin instructed James Atlee to engrave these dies to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the installation of the Great Chain across the Hudson River at West Point. The chain was put in place on April 30, 1778. Machin supervised the manufacture and installation of the chain, and he was rightfully proud of this extraordinary engineering feat.



Plate IX: "1778" Atlee Halfpenny V.12-78B,  
the Great Chain Commemorative Variety

Thomas Machin's son, Thomas N. Machin, Jr., provided an excellent description of the coinage operation at his father's mint. In part he states, "The metal used was copper, obtained by melting up [brass] cannon and leaving out the zinc in the alloy."<sup>(12)</sup> During the Revolutionary War Thomas Machin was an officer in the Second New York Regiment of Continental Artillery commanded by

John Lamb. Thus, after the war, Machin knew where and how to obtain the cannon he required for his coinage operation. Therefore, another intriguing aspect of the Group 3 Atlee Halfpence is that they are very likely made from cannon that were used to win our independence.

Some general observations concerning the Group 3 Atlee Halfpence are that the obverse effigy's hair is fine, and with most of the varieties the hair extends from a single point at the back of the head. Several large ringlets frame the effigy's face, the lips are pursed, and the eye is almond-shaped. Additional style characteristics that pertain to the entire Atlee Halfpence series are large triangular denticles along the circumference and a single outline in the crosses of the British Union in Britannia's shield. The crosses should have a double outline or fillets to be technically correct.

#### Miscellaneous Mules

Finally, there are three die varieties that cannot be placed into the preceding three groups of Atlee Halfpence. These varieties are all mules and were struck from either broken, worn out, or rejected dies. These varieties are 9-87NY, 15-85NY, and 22-88VT. They were undoubtedly struck at Machin's Mills during the copper price collapse in 1789. All three obverse dies are halfpence dies and are punch linked to Atlee's Group 1 Halfpence. Thus, these dies were engraved in 1786 and then carried to Machin's Mills by James Atlee. The reverse dies come from various sources, again through James Atlee.

Variety 9-87NY is very rare, with three pices known to exist. The obverse die was first used in Group 1 to strike variety 9-76B. However, early in its first usage a large chunk of the die broke off at the 12 o'clock position. The reverse die (INDIAN) had also been used earlier to strike pattern coinage in conjunction with Thomas Machin's petition for a coinage grant from New York State. Variety 15-85NY is also quite rare, with approximately fifteen specimens known to exist. The obverse die was a rejected die that had been engraved in 1786. The reverse die is the IMMUNE COLUMBIA die that James Atlee had obtained from Walter Mould, also in 1786. Variety 22-88VT, or Ryder 31 as it is known in the Vermont series, exists in fairly large quantities. This obverse was an



Plate X: 1788 Atlee Halfpenny V.22-88VT,  
Halfpenny Obverse Muled with Vermont Reverse

unused die that James Atlee had engraved in 1786 while in New York City. The reverse die (Bressett U) was engraved by James Atlee for Vermont coppers struck at the Rupert Mint. When this mint closed the die was returned to Machin's Mills. Even though it was well-worn from its usage at the Rupert Mint, it was placed into service again to coin this variety and additional Vermont coppers.

### Conclusion

James Atlee's Halfpence are interesting to collect and study. They are punch and even die linked to the other state coinages. Since the series was coined over a four year period (1786-1789), it offers many varied and interesting varieties. For example, within the Atlee Halfpence series there is a collectable variety dated 1776, the year we declared our independence; there are varieties that use the same letter and number punches as the celebrated BRASHER DOUBLOON; there are varieties that are made from cannon that were used to win our independence; and there are mule varieties that demonstrate the decline of the state coinage era. Atlee Halfpence are a fascinating part of our American numismatic heritage.

### Notes

- (1). This brief review of James Atlee's involvement with the state coinages is for the most part deduced from the study of the coins themselves.
- (2). An annotated copy of Betts' paper has been published in Issue #60 of The Colonial Newsletter.
- (3). "James Atlee's Imitation British Halfpence." March 1987, Issue #75, The Colonial Newsletter.
- (4). The Atlee Halfpence series contains 34 die varieties, whereas, the Vermont series includes 40 die varieties.
- (5). Group 1 die varieties: Vlack 2-71A, 3-71B, 3-74A, 4-71C, 4-75A, 5-72A, 6-72A, 6-76A, 7-72B, 7-74A, 8-74A, 9-76B, 24-72C.
- (6). Atlee's 1786 Connecticut coppers are: Miller 1-A, 2.1-A, 2.1-D.3, 2.2-D.2, 3-D.1, 3-D.4.
- (7). The letter punches are: E, N, O, S, U, and V.
- (8). For examples of Walter Mould's engraving style see Connecticut copper 1787 Miller 6.1-M or New Jersey copper Maris 6-D.
- (9). Group 2 die varieties: Vlack 1-47A, 17-87A, 17-87B, 17-87E.
- (10). All of the NOVA EBORACS, EXCELSIORS, and Muttonhead Connecticut coppers show this engraving style.
- (11). Group 3 die varieties: Vlack 11-78A, 12-78B, 13-78B, 13-87CT, 13-88CT, 13-88VTA, 18-87C, 19-87C, 20-87C, 21-87C, 21-87D, 23-87C, 23-88A, VT-87C.

(12). The entire description of the coinage operation was published in 1875 in E. M. Ruttenber's History of the County of Orange: With a History of the Town and City of Newburgh. The description also appears in Issue #68 of The Colonial Newsletter.

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